

Jury weighs final step in Sharon suit

NEW YORK (R) — A jury met again Monday to try to decide the key issue in ex-Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon's libel suit against Time magazine: whether a story about him was published with reckless disregard for the truth. In the first steps of a three-stage process, the jury has already found that the February 1983 report about Sharon's role in the massacre of Palestinians in Beirut the year before was false and defamed Sharon, who has sued for \$50 million. There was a sense of anticipation among lawyers and reporters as deliberations resumed Monday morning for an eighth day that a verdict might be near.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تلين يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

30 killed or injured in Sidon blast

BEIRUT (AP) — As Israel's army dismantled its "front line" at the Awali River Monday in readiness to pull back in Lebanon, a car bomb in occupied Sidon killed or wounded more than 30 people, including a political leader apparently targeted in the attack. The blast went off in front of the home of Mustafa Saad, leader of the Popular Nasserite organisation, Beirut radio reports said. His group is one of those expected to contest for control of the south's largest city once Israeli forces withdraw. Lebanon's government radio described Mr. Saad, in his 30s, as in critical condition and said his wife and a daughter also were among those injured. It said a four-storey building containing Mr. Saad's home and office was heavily damaged in the 6:35 p.m. (1635 GMT) car bombing.

Volume 10 Number 2775

AMMAN, TUESDAY JANUARY 22, 1985, RABIA THANI 29, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Joint committee meets in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Ministerial Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation discussed here Monday scopes of cooperation in the field of oil and industry. The committee resumes its meetings Tuesday. The Jordanian side in the committee is led by Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani while the Iraqi side is led by Oil Minister Ousem Ahmad Taqi.

Klibi invited to nuclear meeting

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi Monday received an invitation to attend a world leaders meeting on nuclear arms from Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu. The meeting, which will include 50 world leaders, is expected to result in an international call for nuclear disarmament. Leaders of Greece, Sweden, Tanzania, Argentina and several governments, political party leaders and religious leaders are among those invited for the meeting.

U.S. consults Israel on Mideast talks

TEL AVIV (R) — Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo said Monday the United States was consulting Israel on Middle East talks it plans to hold with Moscow. He told parliament that Israel "will continue to receive the information if and when consultations take place on the Middle East." Mr. Milo said Israel believed only direct talks with the Arabs would produce peace and for that reason the U.S.-Soviet contacts would not be effective.

S. Yemeni-Omani talks conclude

MUSCAT (R) — South Yemeni and Omani officials concluded talks on demarcation of their border here Monday and agreed to meet again in Aden on an undiscussed date. A statement described the two days of talks here as friendly. No further details were available.

Perez de Cuellar arrives in London

LONDON (AP) — U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar flew into London on Monday for talks with Under-Secretary General Brian Urquhart on Israel's planned pullout from Lebanon. Mr. Urquhart was due later in the day. The U.N. office in London said.

428 die in Indian cold snap

NEW DELHI (R) — The death toll in a month-long cold snap in India's eastern state of Bihar has risen to 428, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Monday. The news agency said 28 more deaths had been reported from the town of Mokameh in the north of the state. Northern and eastern India has been worst hit by unusually cold winter weather this year.

Arab committee warns Iran against continuing Gulf war

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A seven-nation Arab League committee ended its meetings here Monday expressing solidarity with Iraq and warning Iran against continuing the 52-month-old Gulf war.

A communiqué issued after the two-day meeting said the committee "warns Iran not to continue its war against an Arab League member, Iraq, which has accepted all calls and initiatives for peaceful efforts" to end the conflict. The committee, which comprises the foreign ministers of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Kuwait, North Yemen, Tunis and Iraq and Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, recalled the Joint Arab League Pact and resolutions adopted at the 12th Arab summit which called for Arab support for Iraq against any aggression and implicitly warned Syria and Libya which support Iran in the war.

The committee, which was set up last March to seek an end to the war, reviewed its campaign to dissuade Asian and European countries to end their military cooperation with Iran and "noted with relief that some countries have realised the importance of peace and stability in the area," the communiqué said. "But," it added, "there are several other states which are still encouraging Iran to continue the war and offering support" to the Tehran regime.

The communiqué also reminded "those states which are still dealing with Iran" of various resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Fez Arab summit in 1982 calling on all nations to "refrain from taking any action which might prolong the war directly or indirectly."

The committee also "regrets to note the continuing Iranian refusal to accept mediation bids to end the conflict or accept the peaceful initiatives put forward by the U.N., the OIC and other international organisations," the statement said. The statement concluded by saying that the committee, during its Baghdad meetings, reviewed "the steps to be taken in the next stage and took a number of decisions." It did not elaborate. Mr. Klibi, who attends the committee sessions, told reporters Sunday night that its members would travel to numerous countries soon "to draw their attention to the dangers of a continuation of the war."

Iraq says 4 new 'targets' hit in Gulf

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq has reported attacks against four "large naval targets" near Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal in operations overnight Sunday and Monday. A military spokesman said Monday's target was "effectively and accurately" hit at 4:30 p.m. (1330 GMT) and that all the Iraqi planes returned safely to base. It was the 18th target Iraq claimed to have hit in the Gulf so far this year but only four vessels have been confirmed hit by independent sources.

Iraq said Sunday night its warplanes had hit three "naval targets" near Kharg, two of them described as large and the other very large. There was no confirmation from shipping sources around the Gulf of any vessel in difficulties. Iraq has used the phrase "large naval target" in the past to describe foreign cargo vessels, sometimes oil tankers. The last confirmed hit, however, was a West German-owned supply ship, the Bertram, which its owners said was damaged by a rocket near Kharg last Saturday. A spokeswoman for Bulldierck GmbH, speaking from Bremen, said the Bertram was hit near Kharg Island.

Beirut cabinet holds urgent talks as Israelis prepare for new lines

BEIRUT (Agencies) — With Israeli troops dismantling their "front line" at the Awali River Monday in readiness to pull farther south in Lebanon, the Lebanese cabinet met in emergency session on ways to stop civil warfare from erupting after Israel's pullback. Reporters in South Lebanon said Israeli flags were lowered at the main coastal road crossing into the occupied territory but that Israeli troops had not pulled out. Prime Minister Rashid Karam's cabinet convened late Monday to discuss Israel's withdrawal plan and strategy for renewed talks Tuesday with Israel on achieving security in the area that will be vacated, according to Beirut Radio.

In Tel Aviv, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was quoted Monday as telling parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee he advised the cabinet to approve the pullout plan because he was convinced the Israeli army could not maintain the same degree of order in South Lebanon as it does in the occupied West Bank. Mr. Rabin was quoted as telling the committee Israel would not tolerate the return of "PLO-type" organisations in South Lebanon after its army withdraws. "This must be prevented by pre-emptive action by the Israeli defence forces," he was quoted as saying. Israel has lost 608 soldiers in Lebanon and more than 3,500 have been wounded, according to official figures.

Mr. Rabin said Sunday that Israel will pull out of the Sidon area by Feb. 18 "with or without coordination with the United Nations and the Lebanese." At the talks, Lebanon rejected Israeli demands for UNFIL deployment north of the Litani River, but Lebanese political sources said Monday the government might ask the U.N. to send a separate group of observers to the northern sector. Israeli Foreign Ministry officials said in Tel Aviv Monday they expected the resumed talks will focus on the deployment of U.N. peacekeepers and the Lebanese army in Sidon. The officials, who spoke on condition they would not be identified, said Lebanon may bring a proposal for broadening the responsibilities of U.N. troops that could be taken to the U.N. Security Council for approval. Meanwhile, Israeli troops ferried equipment from their front lines north of Sidon in occupied South Lebanon Monday and began setting up new positions closer to their own border under the first phase of a total withdrawal.

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Bhopal gas plant lacked adequate safety

NEW DELHI (AP) — Preliminary official investigations at the Union Carbide plant, which leaked poisonous gas that killed more than 2,000 people, have revealed that the factory lacked adequate safety measures, a senior government official reported Monday. The Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, central India, only had a single safety device with no back-up systems, an official of the government's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) said.

About 40 tons of toxic methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked from the plant Dec. 3, killing more than 2,000 people and affecting 60,000 others. The factory's safety system to neutralise escaping poisonous chemical should have been designed to cope with larger quantities of MIC gas, said the official, who did not want to be identified. "We didn't have early warning systems like in the American plant," he said, adding that there was no automatic monitoring of safety measures at the Bhopal plant. Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers Veerendra Patil told parliament Monday there had been six earlier accidents at the plant, which opened in 1978.

Three of the accidents involved poisonous chemicals, he said. In December 1981, a man died after liquid phosgene spilled from a pipeline, Mr. Patil said. In February 1982, 25 people were taken ill after another phosgene leak. In October that year, 15 workers were treated in hospital after a leak of chloroform, hydrochloric acid and methyl isocyanate gas, the minister said. Mr. Patil said a government factory inspector, responsible for industrial safety in the area, ordered the factory to improve safety measures after each of the accidents.

Reagan pledges to create 'new America', seek nuclear agreement

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan, forced indoors by a record inaugural freeze, reenacted his oath-taking Monday and rededicated his second term to staunch conservative principles. "We are creating a new America, a rising nation," he declared with unabashed optimism. In the beauty and comfort of the Capitol Rotunda, Mr. Reagan emphasised the limits of government, but stressed the need for a mighty defence. "There must be no wavering by us, nor any doubts by others," he said. In the face of Soviet opposition, he emphasised his intention to press forward with a "security shield" anti-missile system.

As Washington shivered in below-zero (-18 C) wind chills, Mr. Reagan, 73, scrapped the traditional Pennsylvania Avenue parade out of concern for the thousands of high-school band members who found their instruments would not make music on the coldest inaugural day in American history. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger administered the oath to Mr. Reagan under the Capitol dome, repudiating a brief ceremony that took place in the White House on Sunday following the swearing-in of Vice-President George Bush. Tradition holds that the pomp pageantry are staged Monday when the date of the inauguration falls on Sunday.

Outside, cannons signalled a 21-gun salute — while four blocks away, several hundred demonstrators protested Mr. Reagan's policy on the poor Americans, South Africa and Nicaragua. Jan. 20 is the constitutional date for presidential installations. Monday's events were a public affirmation that Mr. Reagan said "alone is cause for rejoicing." Following Monday's noon-hour inaugural address, Mr. Reagan was going by helicopter to the suburban Capital Centre Coliseum where band members were to perform for one another — rather than the 325,000 spectators expected outdoors. The Capitol Rotunda held about 1,000 dignitaries, but there was no room for their spouses. Let



His Majesty King Hussein Monday receives Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid (centre), who delivered to him a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The meeting was also attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

King receives Egyptian message

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak dealing with Arab efforts in the international arena and joint Jordanian-Egyptian efforts to serve the Palestine cause and to achieve a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem, the Jordanian News Agency Petra, said. The message was delivered to the King by Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid at Al Nadwa Palace. The message also dealt with ways and means to strengthen bilateral relations, Petra said. King Hussein's meeting with Mr. Abdul Meguid, which included a working lunch, was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Foreign Minister Taher

Al Masri and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbe. Mr. Abdul Meguid, who arrived earlier Monday, flew back to Cairo later Monday. In Cairo, Egypt's Middle East News Agency said President Mubarak's message to the King concerned the outcome of the Egyptian leader's "latest contacts regarding the Palestinian problem and efforts to push Middle East peace efforts." Mr. Mubarak's latest international consultations included talks with Greek and Italian leaders during visits to Athens and Rome last week. Mr. Mubarak is scheduled to travel to Washington in March for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Middle East developments. The agency did not give further details. Jordan resumed diplomatic relations with Egypt last September following a five-year rupture, and became the first among 17 other

Arab states which had severed diplomatic ties with it to do so among Cairo to protest its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel. Since the restoration of relations, Mr. Mubarak has visited Jordan twice and King Hussein has been to Egypt once. Upon arrival in Amman earlier Monday, Mr. Abdul Meguid told Petra that his visit was part of continuing consultations between Jordan and Egypt on efforts for peace in the Middle East. He expressed happiness to visit Jordan and said it was a good opportunity to meet King Hussein and senior Jordanian officials within the framework of Jordanian-Egyptian contacts aimed at coordinating stands. He described the joint Jordanian-Egyptian moves at this stage as a "continuous process to discuss decisive issues that concern all of us." The minister pointed out that his visit comes within moves aimed at reaching a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Truce takes hold to halt Amal-Murabitoun clashes

BEIRUT (AP) — A daybreak ceasefire Monday halted night long clashes that left seven people dead and 15 wounded in west Beirut and the hills overlooking the Lebanese capital, police said. The west Beirut hostilities pitted Lebanon's dominant Shi'ite Muslim "Amal" militia against irregulars of the Libyan-backed Sunni Muslim faction, "Murabitoun," according to police. Rocket-propelled grenade blasts and the crackle of machine gun fire jolted the residential neighbourhoods of Kaskas, Sabra, Tariq Al Jadideh and Ras Al Nabaa in the city's western sector during the nine-hour battles between the two groups. Police had no word on what touched off the Amal-Murabitoun fighting, the second such clash in recent months. They said two combatants were killed and seven wounded in the clashes before a ceasefire took hold at 6 a.m. (0400 GMT). A simultaneous ceasefire stopped eight hours of artillery battles between government troops and militiamen around the central mountain town of Souk Al Gharb. Police said five civilians, including

an 11-month old baby, were killed and eight other people wounded in that area. Shops were closed and streets were deserted Monday, in the Tariq Al Jadideh area, scene of the heaviest fighting, residents said. The lack of security fuelled a run on the Lebanese pound, which closed at a record low of 10.40 against the dollar. The pound lost 11.2 per cent of its value last week and has lost 15.8 per cent so far this year. Its previous lowest close was 10.32 last Saturday. The spiritual leader of Lebanon's Sunni Muslims, Grand Mufti Sheikh Hassan Khaled, met with Sunni, Shi'ite Muslim and Druze representatives to try to prevent any repeat of overnight fighting by the three groups. Government radio said a committee was formed to operate on the streets to quickly cut off any renewed violence. Army and militia officials also discussed ways of halting mountain fighting east of Beirut between the Lebanese army and militiamen.

Soviets expect limited Stockholm accord

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Soviet Union expects a limited agreement to be reached at the European disarmament conference this year following a U.S. offer to conclude an accord well ahead of schedule. Soviet diplomats said Monday. The mandate of the 35-nation talks, part of the process set in motion by the 1975 Helsinki European security conference, is to devise ways of preventing war breaking out in Europe by accident or miscalculation.

The first stage of the conference is due to last until November 1986, but NATO diplomats said the United States had offered to conclude an accord on less complex issues in time for the 10th anniversary of the Helsinki agreement next Aug. 1. Washington indicated at the end of 1984 that it would be willing to conclude an agreement on the notification and observation of military manoeuvres by August, but the alliance diplomats said there had been no official Soviet response.

The Soviet diplomats said Monday: "We have been told to expect an agreement in Stockholm this year. Perhaps not in the next session, but perhaps in the one after." They declined to give details. The conference's fifth session begins on Jan. 29. The sixth session will run from May 14 to July 5. NATO diplomats said the U.S.-Soviet meeting in Geneva this month clearly had a positive influence on the Stockholm talks, although the U.S. offer was made before the two superpowers agreed in Geneva to resume arms control negotiations.

U.N. team visits scene of Iraqi POW deaths

LONDON (R) — A United Nations fact-finding team has ended a two-day visit to a camp for Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) in northern Iran where several PoWs were killed last year, the National News Agency IRNA reported Monday.

The delegation arrived in Iran last Friday for a week-long visit after visiting camps for Iranian PoWs in Iraq.

It was formed following a riot at the Gorgan Camp in northern Iran in which several PoWs were killed and a number wounded.

Iran said five died, three of them killed by fellow PoWs. A Red Cross official in Geneva said Iranian guards had killed six PoWs and wounded 35 others during a camp riot.

IRNA said the three-man U.N. team had private talks with Iraqi PoWs at the camp, including three men the agency said were "responsible for the killing of three Iraqi PoWs in a clash between two rival PoW groups in the camp last October."

The agency, received in London, said the team also visited a

imposed on Iranian ports."

The ministers make up the Arab League follow-up committee, which has been trying to arrange a settlement to the 52-month-old Gulf war. It comprises the foreign ministers of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, North Yemen, Morocco, Tunisia and Iraq and is headed by Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi.

Mr. Klibi told reporters after the first session the committee has agreed to dispatch delegates to foreign capitals to "explain developments of the war between Iraq and Iran and draw the attention of the (foreign) states to the serious repercussions arising from continuation of the Gulf war."

The committee, which also agreed on a proposed plan of action for the next two months, is to resume deliberations Monday, Mr. Klibi said.

The ministers were to convene their fourth meeting here after the Baghdad government indicated it felt their efforts were at a stalemate, said one official source close to the committee.



WOMEN'S TALKS — Her Majesty Queen Noor (fourth from left) receives representatives of the Jordanian Women's Federation including the federation's president, Mrs. Haifa Al Bashir (left). See story page 3. (Petra photo)

Concern about Shi'ites said to be major factor in Israel's withdrawal decision

By Nicolas Tatro
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — A major factor in Israel's decision to pull out of Lebanon was a fear that the Shi'ite Muslim community in South Lebanon might become a permanent enemy along its border.

"Shi'ites who welcomed the Israelis and shared a common opposition to the Palestinians see us today as they used to see Palestinians, as foreign occupiers," Yossi Olmert, a Middle East expert at Tel Aviv University, said in an interview.

"This strengthened the hand of the pro-withdrawal lobby and had a lot to do with the decision (to withdraw)," he said.

After invading Lebanon in June 1982, Israel focused on trying to insure that Palestinian commandos would not return to the sensitive border region and resume attacks on northern Israeli settlements.

To that end, Israel initially sought to tip the balance of power in favor of the Falangists, a long-time ally in fighting Palestinian commandos but a tiny minority in South Lebanon.

The political aspirations of the Shi'ites, who constitute the majority of the 900,000 residents in the south and are the largest sect in Lebanon, were virtually ignored.

"Their daily life was disrupted by Israeli roadblocks, curfews and arrests," he said.

Starting in the fall of 1983, Shi'ites began to mount a fierce resistance to Israel's continuing occupation and now are blamed for most of the 40 to 50 attacks against Israeli troops each month.

Columnist Michael Garti wrote

in the liberal daily Haaretz that one of the overriding reasons for withdrawal was that "each day that passes until the withdrawal generates new enemies for Israel, creating a circle of hate liable to take the form of terror against (northern) Israel."

"That prompted Israel's defence establishment to begin worrying more about who was already in South Lebanon instead of who might be there after Israeli troops left."

Ehud Barak, the head of military intelligence, was quoted Friday by Israel Radio as saying "we are raising the deadliest enemy, and the least predictable."

"There is no doubt that it was one of the factors" in the Israeli cabinet decision to pull out of Lebanon, said a Defence official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Other factors were the cost in lives, the economic burden and Prime Minister Shimon Peres' desire to make good on campaign pledges to end Israel's involvement in Lebanon and set the stage for broader Middle East peace initiatives.

The withdrawal plan was opposed by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the majority of his rightist Likud Bloc, which launched the war to rid South Lebanon of Palestinian commandos.

Although they have expressed concern about the deteriorating relations with Shi'ites, Likud leaders have placed more emphasis on the threat of a Syrian-supported resurgence of Palestinian commando activity in South Lebanon.

In a speech in Geneva, Foreign Ministry Director-General David

Kimche warned that "if they return, we reserve the right to prevent any aggressive actions against our inhabitants from that region."

The Yediot Achronot newspaper estimated there were 8,000 Palestinian commandos in Lebanon, most of them Syrian-backed fighters stationed in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who belongs to Mr. Peres' Labour Party, told reporters in announcing the plan for a three-stage withdrawal that the Shi'ite community should have no cause to fight once Israeli troops were gone.

But he defined a post-withdrawal policy based on reprisal raids from Israel against commando targets in South Lebanon that could continue to produce friction with the Shi'ite population.

"We will preserve for ourselves full freedom of military action in every case where there is the beginning of an infrastructure for one sort of terrorist or another," Mr. Rabin said.

"Instead of an army spread out and constituting a target for Shi'ites and other terrorists in southern Lebanon, the Israeli army will be concentrated, capable of taking offensive action."

The defence official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, predicted Israel's withdrawal would reduce commando activity by the Shi'ites but not necessarily eliminate it.

"Some of the Shi'ite actions will diminish when we leave, but there are other extremists who draw their inspiration from the mythique of the Iranian revolution and could continue to present a threat," said the official.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"Lebanon is in the throes of a historic change," Gen. Ben Eliezer told Newsweek in a Jerusalem interview. "The Christians are losing their hegemony, and the Shi'ites are beginning to establish their own."

Two Syrian ministers ousted from top committee

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's interior minister and the chief of national security have been dismissed from the country's top leadership committee, the official news agency SANA reported Monday.

It said the Congress of the Ruling Ba'ath Arab Socialist Party voted Sunday night to dismiss Interior Minister Nassef al-Nasser and National Security Chief Ahmad al-Dabbas from the committee, the 21-member "Regional Command."

The two men are to retain their respective job titles, but will be replaced on the Regional Command along with three other members.

SANA made the announcement without elaboration after the 800-member Ba'ath Congress Sunday night adjourned its first meeting in five years after a 16-day session.

A position on the Regional Command, a leadership com-

Gulf health ministers start talks

DOHA (R) — Health ministers from seven Gulf Arab states opened a three-day meeting here Monday with a call for better health care standards for their citizens.

Qatar's Health Minister, Khalid bin Muhammad al-Manna, told the opening session concerted efforts should be made to promote family health care, establish a solid pharmaceutical industry in the Gulf and encourage breast-feeding.

Ministers from the Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Iraq are attending.

Dr. Husni Jadalallah of the Riyadh-based General Secretariat of Health in the Gulf Arab states, told reporters the conference would discuss a long-term health planning strategy, a Malariia eradication programme and primary health care with emphasis on anti-natal and post-natal care.

He said Saudi Arabia and Kuwait had contributed two million Saudi riyals (\$558,000) each to the Voluntary Fund for Malaria Control, while Bahrain had provided 100,000 riyals (\$27,932).

Mr. Jadalallah said the ministers would also discuss setting up a pharmaceutical industry, coordination to avoid duplication of products from drug projects, already operational in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and a disposable syringe factory in Oman.

He said one important topic was the unified purchase of drugs by Gulf states which had helped save \$40 million in the past four years, amounting to 40 per cent of total purchases.

Ethiopian official predicts long term shortages

NEW YORK (R) — Ethiopia does not have the technology, money or manpower to use existing water supplies to prevent further drought, the head of its relief programme has said.

Asked about avoiding further suffering from drought in which thousands have died from starvation, Dawit Wolde-Georgis was quoted in Newsweek magazine as saying:

"We have to start over again with the reforestation programme. We have to start irrigating, soil and water conservation projects."

"If we had the know-how, the technology and the capability to properly utilise existing water, we would not face shortages in the coming years. But we don't have the technology, the manpower, the money."

Mr. Dawit told Newsweek that Ethiopia was urging the international community to devote more attention to making the starving Ethiopians self-sufficient.

Pullout is top priority, Israeli general says

NEW YORK (R) — In 20 years, Shi'ite Muslims will have replaced Falangists as the most powerful group in Lebanon, a former Israeli general and present member of its parliament said in an interview published in Newsweek.

As a result, former Brig.-Gen. Binyamin Ben-Eliezer was quoted

as saying in the magazine, the 12,000 remaining Israeli troops in Lebanon should be removed because Israel would need to be on good terms with the Shi'ites in the future.

Gen. Ben-Eliezer was elected to Israel's parliament last summer as a member of the coalition of

Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"Lebanon is in the throes of a historic change," Gen. Ben Eliezer told Newsweek in a Jerusalem interview. "The Christians are losing their hegemony, and the Shi'ites are beginning to establish their own."

Israelis shoot at car, injure Arab resident

AMMAN (Petra) — One Arab was injured when Israeli troops opened fire at a car in the occupied city of Nablus according to Israel Radio.

The radio claimed the car did not stop when ordered by the soldiers.

On another incident citizens of the Palestinian refugee camp of Balata near Nablus threw stones at an Israeli army vehicle and injured its driver.

Israeli soldiers later stormed the camp and arrested several cit-

izens.

A group of 15 Israelis and one Arab were arrested early this month by Israeli authorities charged with stealing and smuggling arms from the Israeli army and selling them to Palestinian resistance groups according to Radio Israel.

The group which includes two Israeli soldiers kept stores of machine guns, hand grenades and ammunition stolen from the Israeli army camps in the Golan Heights, northern Israel, Lod and Ramla areas.

APU postpones meeting

DAMASCUS (Petra) — An Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting that was scheduled on Jan. 26 is now postponed for Feb. 26 according to the APU Secretary General Abdul Rohman Borai.

The postponement was requested by the hosting South Yemeni Parliament.

The meeting will discuss its two-day session the Middle East crisis, the Iran-Iraq war, the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon and other issues.

The meeting will also review results of parliamentary dialogues it had with different parliamentary groups.

Greek-Cypriots say unity effort has not ended

NICOSIA (R) — Efforts to reunite the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus will continue despite the failure in New York Sunday night of talks between their leaders, Cypriot government sources said Monday.

"We have agreed that efforts must be continued and we are ready to do anything on our part to help the (U.N.) secretary general," a government official said.

"For us it has not ended."

In Ankara, a Turkish government statement blamed the Greek-Cypriot side for failure of the talks which it described as "a serious blow to settlement of the problem."

President Spyros Kyprianou, Greek-Cypriot head of state, and Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, blamed each other for failure of the four-day talks in New York, arranged by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

But Mr. Perez de Cuellar said both sides were prepared to keep up direct contacts and he would keep in touch with them in hopes of a possible meeting before the end of February.

Greek-Cypriot newspapers expressed disappointment and uncertainty Monday over failure of the talks and offered no formula for new moves to unite the island, which split into separate communities when Turkey invaded northern Cyprus in 1974 after a short-lived pro-Greek military coup.

Mr. Denktaş said Sunday night that elections are planned in the self-proclaimed northern Turkish-Cypriot state and the Cyprus government official said here Monday this would be illegal and particularly harmful at the present stage.

"Any new fait accompli, any new action of this nature will impede the efforts of the secretary-general," he said.

Disagreement in New York focussed on the status of a draft for a new federal system linking separate Greek and Turkish-Cypriot states or provinces under a central government.

Mr. Kyprianou insisted the draft needed further negotiation and Mr. Denktaş wanted it signed in its present form, with negotiations left to working groups.

The Cypriot government official Monday said Mr. Kyprianou was ready Sunday night to accept immediate establishment of working groups to discuss constitutional aspects of the problem, provided Mr. Denktaş agreed to a new high-level meeting with only four items on the agenda.

These items, he said, would be a timetable for withdrawal of non-Cypriot troops, the territorial issue, three fundamental freedoms — right of movement, settlement and property — and the question of international guarantees for a federal republic.

But Mr. Denktaş had rejected this approach, the official said.

A Turkish government statement said the Greek-Cypriot side, led by President Spyros Kyprianou, had "categorically demonstrated that it does not favour a settlement to be reached through direct negotiations and will persist in undermining even the most genuine efforts for such a settlement."

It called the Turkish-Cypriot attitude "responsible and conciliatory," and said it took part in the talks with a constructive spirit.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar arrived Monday in London for talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the Cyprus dispute.

The British Foreign Office said this was a private, three-day visit but would provide an opportunity for Mr. Perez de Cuellar to discuss the deadlock talks on settling the Cyprus problem.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
17:00 News
17:10 Cartoons
17:30 Children programmes
18:10 Trauma Centre
19:00 Local Programme
19:30 Programme Review
19:40 News Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local Programme
21:00 News in English
21:30 Varieties Programme
22:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL
17:30 German Programme for Children
18:00 Des graves et Lourds
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Star of the Family
21:00 Tenko
22:00 News in English
22:15 Harkatle and McCormick

RADIO JORDAN
555 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM
& partly on 95.0 KHz. 511

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 News Summary
09:30 Pop Session
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
11:30 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:30 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Science Fiction
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Instruments
17:00 Old Favorites
17:30 Science Report
18:00 Pop Session
18:30 News Summary
19:00 News Summary
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:30 Evening Show
22:00 News Headlines
23:00 Evening Show
24:00 News Headlines

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS
EXHIBITION
An exhibition of paintings on silk by artist Khalil Shukri at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 31).

PLAY
A local play (The Choice) at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 31).

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41903
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 39777
Turkish Cultural Centre 665195
Haya Arts Centre 667181
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Ufa'a (Ciudad Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Friday and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabbal Luwibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 661240.

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luwibdeh. 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein. 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. 33541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman. 25383.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 771331.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 771751.
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmiesan. 816534.

PRAYER TIMES
04:57 Fajr
06:23 Sunrise
11:58 Dhuhr
17:18 Asr
18:44 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

MARITIME TRAFFIC
Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:
— Astor
— Farah One
— Hania T
— Jarash
— Ruba
— Kora Wira
— Blue Nile
— Ville Deming

Amin Kewar and Sons Company, Tel. 22324 (six lines) & your service.

WEATHER
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be partly cloudy and cold, with scattered showers and northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, with northerly moderate winds and seas calm.
Low/high temperature in deg. C:
Amman 5/11
Aqaba 9/18
Deserts 12/19
Jordan Valley 9/17

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 67 per cent, Aqaba 72 per cent.

DEPARTURES:
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
07:00 Beirut (RJ)
07:15 Aqaba (RJ)
11:15 Tripoli (RJ)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:15 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:20 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Rome (RJ)
13:00 Bahrain (GF)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
14:50 Moscow (SU)
15:40 Kuwait (RJ)
17:15 Baghdad (IA)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)
22:00 Bangkok (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE
Local sell/buy rates in JLD
Belgian franc 64.1/ 64.5
Dutch guilder 113.6/ 114.3
Egyptian pound 303/ 310
French franc 41.9/ 42.1
Iraqi dinar 342.6/ 348.6
Italian lire (for 100) 20.8/ 21
Japanese yen (for 100) 160/ 160.9
Kuwaiti dinar 1311.6/ 1333.3
Lebanese lira 40.7/ 41.6
Omani rial 1170/ 1176.6
Qatari rial 111.6/ 112.3
Saudi rial 114/ 114.7
Swedish crown 44.7/ 45
Swiss franc 152.6/ 153.5
Syrian lira 37.1/ 38.2
UAE dirham 110/ 111.4
U.K. sterling pound 457.7/ 460.5
U.S. dollar 406.6/ 414.3
W. German mark 128.3/ 129

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES
Ambulance 193, 775111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36382
Municipal water service 77125-4
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS
Husseini Medical Centre 81381-32
Khalid Maternity J. Amn. 44281-4
Al-Khalid Maternity J. Amn. 42441
Jabbal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmiesan 664171-4
Shmiesan Hospital 665292
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Mishar Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic Abdali 664164
Al-Ahli, Abdali 77701-3
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77701-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111
Army, Marfa 91611

IRBD
Dr. Mohammad Al Shar' 73680
Khanar pharmacy 3085

ZARQA:
Dr. Yalila Tarifi 981230
Abilham pharmacy (—)

GENERAL
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram
Repair service 11

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Al Abbadi 778959

MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in JLD per kg.
Apple (double red) 260/200
Apple (golden) 260/200
Apple (eastern) 260/200
Banana 280/240
Banana (Mukammal) 240/210
Beans 260/200
Broad beans 350/300
Cabbage 80/50
Carrot 640/570
Carrot (yellow) 120/90
Carrot (black) 140/100
Cauliflower 80/50
Cucumber (large) 180/150
Cucumber (small) 320/260
Eggplant (large) 110/80
Eggplant (small) 150/120
Garlic 150/120
Grapefruit 140/100

Lebanon 120/90
Lentils (per one) 120/90
Mallow 280/220
Mandarin 200/160
Marrow (large) 80/50
Marrow (small) 130/90
Onion (dry) 140/100
Onion (green) 140/100
Oranges (Abu Surra) 250/200
Oranges (Shammouni) 200/160
Peas 80/50
Peas (American) 340/280
Pepper (sweet) 300/230
Pepper (hot green) 300/230
Potatoes (local) 270/220
Radishes 90/60
Spinach 90/60
Tomatoes 130/100
Turnip 130/100

WAJ takes precautions to ensure adequate water supply

AMMAN (Petra) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) has taken precautionary measures to ensure sufficient water supplies in the coming summer and does not expect any water problems despite this season's low rainfall, WAJ Director General Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani announced here Sunday.

He said that WAJ will increase the number of artesian wells to make up for any shortages of water and will lay main pipelines to supply regions that might be affected by water shortages. It is premature to say that this is a 'drought year' because rain is still expected in the coming two months to replenish underground reservoirs, Mr. Keilani told a meeting of senior heads of departments at WAJ headquarters.

Mr. Keilani said that the surface and ground water wells and springs have been affected by the delay of rainfall this year but the deep artesian wells will not be affected even if rain did not fall for two consecutive years because they are fed by deep underground water basins. The WAJ has made arrangements for laying a 24-inch pipeline to link Al Zarqani in Mafraq and Khaw Springs near Zarqa and to join Ras Munif water towers with Jerash district to help distribute sufficient water to these regions, Mr. Keilani added.

During this year, he said, the WAJ plans to supply all population settlements with drinking water and to protect all water networks from pollution. To achieve this, he said, sewerage systems should be installed in all cities together with wastewater treatment plants.

Although the WAJ continues to develop water resources, it will rationalise its distribution and will continue to try and eliminate areas which are sources of health hazards, he said.

Sewerage networks

Referring to the Greater Amman sewerage project, Mr. Keilani said that this project entails building sewers in Wadi Seer, Suweileh, Safout and Ain Al Basha with wastewater treatment plant at Baqa'a and Wadi Seer. This project, he said, will be financed by JD 30 million World Bank loan and the project expected to be completed in 17 months, becoming operational in September 1986.

The Karak sewerage system project, Mr. Keilani said, consists of 33 kilometres of 300 mm diameter cement pipes, a 330 metres long, 3 metres wide and 2 metres high tunnel as a by-pass for the sewerage pipes as well as a wastewater treatment plant. The project will cost JD 3.5 million, financed by the government and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

The Tafleh project will be carried out in two phases. It includes a wastewater treatment plant with a capacity of 800 cubic metres. The project will eliminate pollution of water resources in the city, he said and the cost, to be paid by the government and USAID is JD 4 million.

Regarding Agaba, which has an old sewerage system dating back to 1967, Mr. Keilani said that the old system is unable to cope with the city's expansion. The new project aims to serve the whole of Agaba and any future expansion.

The project will include 27 kilometres of sewerage networks, the replacement of an existing pumping station, a new pumping station for the hotels area and a 9,000 cubic metres per day treatment plant. The project is expected to cost JD 8 million, he said.

Irbid water project

The WAJ plan for Irbid includes 90 kilometres of main water pipes, 200 kilometres of sewerage pipes and a wastewater treatment plant. The cost of the wastewater pipes and treatment plant is JD 15.5 million. The project, which started in 1984, is expected to be ready by mid-1986.

The Zarqa-Ruseifeh project includes 140 kilometres of water pipes, 360 kilometres of sewerage pipes, a rain-water drainage system and a wastewater treatment plant. The project will cost JD 20 million. The first three tenders for this project are underway and include the laying of the main sewerage pipes, the drainage of rain-water and importing drinking water pipes. These will be ready by the end of 1985, Mr. Keilani said.

On the natural wastewater treatment project, the WAJ director general said this project aims to treat excess wastewater from the existing Eia Ghazal plant. The project started in 1983 and will be partially operational in May 1985, he concluded.

Noor accepts honorary position in women's union

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the General Federation of Jordanian Women.

The federation's executive committee Monday briefed Queen Noor on preparations for Jordanian women's participation in the United Nations international women's conference to be held in Nairobi in July to mark the U.N. Decade of Women.

A preparatory meeting for Jordanian women will be held in Amman in May to discuss achievements of women during the women's decade of 1976-1985 and obstacles to their objectives.

Zaben, Zalzal discuss Arab satellite issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab League Assistant Secretary General Abdul Hassan Zalzal conferred here Monday with Communications Minister, Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben on topics pertaining to the launching of an Arab satellite next month.

Dr. Zaben, who is current chairman of the General Assembly of the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation (ARABSAT), had recently discussed the satellite programme and launch with Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi in Tunis.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Amaduzzi appointed plenipotentiary

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government has agreed to appoint Senior Luigi Amaduzzi as Italian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Royal Court.

Ministry approves English curriculum

AMMAN (Petra) — A new curriculum for English language courses in the compulsory stage was approved Monday by the Ministry of Education. A team of English language experts will prepare student handbooks and a committee set up for the purpose will evaluate the team's work.

Sharkas receives Bethlehem deputies

AMMAN (Petra) — Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA) Director General Ahmad Sharkas received Tuesday the Bethlehem deputies Rebbi Mustafa and Edward Khams and briefed them on the department's activities and future plans.

SSC training course commences

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-week familiarisation course opened at the Social Security Corporation (SSC) Monday for orienting newly-appointed employees on SSC work and procedures. A total of 21 persons attending the course will be lectured on the information laws and regulations required to help them in their various tasks.

Qatari theatre team to present plays

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from the Qatari School Theatre is due here Friday at the invitation of the Ministry of Education to present plays at the Palace of Culture, the Department of Culture and Arts and Yarmouk University. The visit of the team, who will present three plays dealing with national issues, is within the framework of a cultural exchange agreement between Jordan and Qatar.

Endemic bilharzia poses a serious health threat for the first time in Jordan

By Olga Mikhail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Despite the Ministry of Health's continuous assurances that the parasitic disease schistosomiasis, better known as bilharzia, is under control and that it is no longer a threat in Jordan, many people in Jordan are still exposed to this disease as long as the two essential elements for the complete cycle of the disease are present. These two cycle elements are the host snail, called *Bulinus truncatus*, and an infected human being and if both are present, there is a probability that new cases of endemic schistosomiasis will break out.

Schistosomiasis, bilharzia or snail fever is a parasitic disease caused by infection with blood flukes or schistosomes. Schistosomiasis is one of the oldest known parasitic diseases, and schistosome eggs have been discovered in the kidneys of some Egyptian mummies.

Although the disease is almost unknown in North America and Europe, it represents one of the oldest scourges of Africa and

South East Asia. 45 per cent of the population in Egypt and 85 per cent of the Jezira Governorate in Sudan are afflicted with the disease.

It is well known that Jordan has never faced endemic schistosomiasis throughout its history. It was not until very recently that this disease became a health threat in Jordan in spite of the campaigns implemented by the Department of Malaria, Schistosomiasis and Lishmania at the Ministry of Health. The campaign began in 1975 when a check showed, for the first time, a *Bulinus* colony living in a cemented reservoir in the Jordan Valley.

Children swimming
Surveys also proved that *Bulinus* snails are prevalent in 22 aquatic sites in Jordan. Nine children with ages ranging between five and 12 years, living in these areas, and who used to swim or bathe in the polluted hot springs of barbeta Tafila, where a large amount of snails are living, proved to be afflicted with this parasitic disease.

Schistosomiasis have two sexes.

The male has a special ventral canal in which he carries the female and the adult mated worms inhabit the small mesenteric and pelvic veins of man, developing eggs which eventually rupture the venules and discharge into the surrounding tissues.

Some of the eggs are carried to the body organs such as the liver and lungs and cause an inflammatory reaction and a thickening of the tissue. Eggs retained within the body do not undergo further development but when the excreted eggs reach fresh water, the larvae, known as *miracidia*, hatch and seek a tiny snail, *Bulinus truncatus* to which they can attach themselves. The *miracidia* shed their ciliated covering as they penetrate the snail to become *sporocysts*. Then follows two generations of development within the snail.

Mature *sporocysts* produce fork-tailed *cercariae* which are expelled into the water. Production of the *cercariae* may continue for several weeks and unless they reach an animal or human host they die.

"Infection with *cercariae* may occur during bathing, swimming or drinking infected water. They burrow into the skin or mucous membranes and reach the blood system where they are carried by circulation to the lungs, liver and mesenteric veins where they mate and reproduce," Dr. Mohammad Rida Tawfiq, head of the Department of Malaria Schistosomiasis and Lishmania at the Ministry of Health told the Jordan Times.

"Some children became afflicted with the disease as a result of swimming several times in the Barbeta hot spring, Tafila, where colonies of snails are living," he added.

Surveys have also proved that warm springs act as a breeding ponds since their water temperature provides an ideal habitat for the snails. Dr. Tawfiq said that all the children infected with the disease were given treatment and medication which gives a 100 per cent cure. The medicine called *Biltricide*, was recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and is given to the patients free of charge.

Although the first case of schistosomiasis was discovered in 1975, it was not until October 1984 that new cases were reported. Since the first case was reported, the department with the help of experts from WHO, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the United States Navy Area Medical Research Unit (NAMRU), conducted surveys in different places in Jordan including the Jordan Valley, Zarqa River, the King Talal Dam and the Ghor Canal. The surveys showed no evidence of any snails in any of these places.

In 1978, a new colony of *Bulinus* snails was discovered in two old Roman spring pools near the ancient city of Jerash. The pools were dried and the snails were killed by molluscicides.

In 1979 a survey was conducted along the coast of the King Talal Dam but no snails were found. In 1980 the surveys discovered large numbers of snails living along the shore of the King Talal Dam

which has been filled for the first time after a five year drought. It was proven that the snails can burrow themselves in wet areas for a period of nine months and can live and reproduce again if they receive fresh water.

The King Talal Dam was sprayed with Molluscicides but snails reappeared in 1982. At that stage the dam was sprayed again after dividing it into 22 sectors to make spraying the nine kilometres of dam coastline easier.

Dr. Tawfiq explained that it is nearly impossible to kill all the snails, especially in a place like King Talal Dam. "This is because these snails can hide themselves under the rocks and under the earth, in places where we cannot reach and where the snails can adapt themselves to these relatively wet places for a period of nine months."

He said that it is very important to increase the awareness of people, especially parents, in order to prevent children from bathing or swimming in springs, rivers or any polluted areas.

Egyptian workers

The spread of schistosomiasis in Jordan may have been caused by the presence of infected Egyptian workers in the Jordan Valley who swam or bathed in springs, rivers or canals where *Bulinus* snails are living, he said. Surveys proved that 23 per cent of the Egyptian workers working in the Jordan Valley were infected with schistosomiasis.

Dr. Tawfiq outlined a plan developed by the Supreme Committee for the Prevention of Schistosomiasis. According to this plan, Egyptian workers in Jordan Valley farms were required to carry a schistosomiasis card to prove that they are free of the disease. The workers must be checked three times to make sure that they have negative test results and the cards must be renewed annually.

Nowadays, any Egyptian worker who applies for a work permit must fill in the schistosomiasis card and urine tests must be made to make sure that they are not carrying this disease. "However,"

the sources told the Jordan Times that another two projects have also designed as part of the company's future plans. The first, to be based in Iraq, is an animal husbandry and breeding programme while the second aims to produce primary pharmaceutical substances in Jordan.

The budget of the Jordanian-Iraqi Industrial Company is JD 20 million with its headquarters in Amman. It is a public shareholding limited company owned by the governments of Jordan and Iraq.

The first project concerns vegetable pickling and was completed six months ago in Nehmanieh, near Baghdad, at a cost of six million Iraqi Dinars, with an estimated capacity of five to six thousand tonnes of Jordanian vegetables per year.

The second project is to be implemented in Jordan and concerns orange juice and tomato paste concentrate. The sources said that although a factory already exists in Jordan, the joint committee of the company recommended expanding this factory with participation from Iraq and that the Jordanian contribution would be

in-kind.

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Team secures initial agreement

S. Arabia to loan JD 20m for Irbid medical complex

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan has secured a long-term loan of 190 million Saudi Riyals, about JD 20 million, from the Riyadh-based Saudi Fund for Development to construct a 650-bed hospital for training purposes and a science faculty college at the Yarmouk University, Ministry of Health Under Secretary Sulaiman Subeichi said Monday.

Dr. Subeichi returned home Monday with an official delegation which was headed by Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran and which included Ministry of Planning experts. He told the Jordan Times upon arrival that the university is due to obtain the loan in February and he explained that during their meetings with Saudi fund officials, the delegation obtained preliminary acceptance that the fund will grant a SR 120 million (about JD 12.5 million) loan as a first phase to be used for construction needs and another loan of SR 70 million (JD 7 million) for the establishment of a medical sciences faculty at the new site of the university.

Dr. Subeichi also said that the establishment of the hospital is the priority project to be implemented because it is needed for medical training purposes at the university and at the same time it helps the Ministry of Health to bridge the gap between the number of patients and medical beds in the northern part of the Kingdom by offering more services to citizens.

Dr. Subeichi said that the Jordanian delegation's discussions aimed to join the two loans together in order to construct the hospital. In this regard, the board of directors of the fund promised to review the issue later this month. He then pointed out that if the fund directors did not agree to merge the two loans, the university will obtain the first SR 120 million as a first phase while the other SR 70 million will be granted later as a long-term loan for the establishment of the medical sciences college.

According to Dr. Subeichi, the loans are 20-year long-term loans with three per cent interest, which he described as "in return for services". He said that instalments will be repaid five years after the implementation of the agreement expected to be signed within February.

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Cabinet forms delegation for labour talks in Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has formed a Jordanian delegation to pay a visit to Egypt for talks with Egyptian officials regarding bilateral cooperation in the field of labour movement, vocational training, social security, industrial safety and social development.

The delegation, to be led by Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, will leave for the Egyptian capital of Cairo Monday, Dr. Abdul Jabbar said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the delegation will also discuss the possibility of initiating an agreement for cooperation between the two countries in manpower and social development fields.

Among the members of the Jordanian delegation are Social Security Corporation Director General Mohammad Mahdi Farhan and Vocational Training Corporation Director General Munther Al Masri.

JD 17.75m for new schools

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of JD 17.75 million will be spent during 1985/1986 on new school buildings with a total area of 120,000 square metres according to Ministry of Education Director of Buildings and Projects Barakat Tarawneh. The project includes 15 vocational schools and three central high schools.



A Ministry of Health surveyor holds a car tyre covered in *Bulinus* snails which are the host for the parasitic disease bilharzia. The tyre was fished out of an open water area.

Dr. Tawfiq said, "this procedure was not enough to prevent any new cases of bilharzia to break out again because hot springs, pools and rivers in different places in Jordan were affected by numerous *Bulinus* snails. Some families of the workers used to go for weekends to these areas for swimming. The 22 places where the *Bulinus* snails are living have been sprayed and the snails killed, except in three places which are Wadi Shuob Dam in the Jordan Valley, Al Kafra Dam in the Jordan Valley and Zarqa River.

Although parasitic disease is not fatal in its early stages, some schistosomiasis, caused by *S. japonicum*, develop more rapidly and is often fatal due to the larger number of eggs laid by the female and the greater percentage of eggs reaching the liver.

In some cases of the disease there are almost no symptoms. In others, the first symptoms such as a bronchial cough may occur a few days following the exposure. Two to three weeks later the patient may develop a skin rash or an allergic reaction," Dr. Tawfiq explained. "Later patients develop general toxic symptoms, such as headache, anorexia, generalised aches and pains, fever and anaemia. The blood shows marked increase in the white blood cells," he added.

Chronic stages
Dr. Tawfiq explained that infiltration of eggs introduces the second or the acute stage of the disease which may last for several months. With time the liver is inflamed and enlarged and the muscles become stiff and painful. The chronic stage of the disease, Dr. Tawfiq added, is reached after several months when the tissues become fibrosed and thickened. The loss of intestinal tone interferes with digestion causing constipation or diarrhoea, ulceration and even cancer.

In *haemathobium* infection, the disease which is threatening Jordan and which affects the urinary system, the bladder and urethra become inflamed and thickened, resulting in a painful urination, blocked ducts and formation of stones and malignant tumors.

Although the disease is not fatal in its first stages, it can be dangerous if not followed by the proper treatment from the beginning. Prevention is mainly by avoiding contact with infected water. Farmers in the Jordan Valley are recommended to wear special plastic boots, the chlorination of drinking water and chemical treatment of water and water tanks is also required for the prevention of this disease.

What is needed is not only the eradication of the snails, which has proved to be very difficult, but an urgent need for the ministry to complete its campaigns to combat this threat and to increase the public awareness about this disease.



Children collecting water and playing in pools, streams or rivers have been affected by bilharzia which are increasingly becoming a grave concern to health officials (J.T. file photo)

Still some hopes for Cyprus deal

By John Rogers
Reuter

LONDON — Cypriot leaders, by failing to find a formula to reunite their divided island, have missed a golden opportunity for reconciliation, Western diplomats said Monday.

But there was still hope of a settlement provided President Spyros Kyprianou, the Greek Cypriot leader, and Turkish Cypriot chief Rauf Denktaş agreed to meet again, they added.

After four days of talks in New York broke down Sunday night, United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar urged them to hold fresh talks by the end of February. Mr. Kyprianou said he was ready, but Mr. Denktaş refused to set a date.

Western diplomats predicted the deadlock in New York, over the status of a U.N.-negotiated federal system for Cyprus, would not close all doors to an agreement.

"In dealing with Cyprus, one is never terribly optimistic, but I doubt that all hope and all prospect of doing something is lost," a European-based U.S. official said.

However, the rarity of direct talks between heads of the two communities meant it was vital to seize opportunities — and the first in six years had just been lost, diplomats said.

Mr. Kyprianou and Mr. Denktaş last met face-to-face in 1979, when they reached a 10-point agreement expanding on guidelines worked out at a summit two years earlier between Mr. Denktaş and then-President Archbishop Makarios. Sub-

sequent intercommunal talks at a lower level made no progress.

Diplomats said it was up to Mr. Perez de Cuellar, having brought the two leaders together, to follow through.

"It puts a lot of pressure on him to pull a rabbit out of the hat," one commented.

The U.N. chief said Sunday night he believed the gap between the two communities had never been so narrow. He arrived Monday in London, where he will discuss Cyprus with British leaders.

Britain, which ruled the island until 1960 and is guarantor with Greece and Turkey of its independence, Monday voiced hopes that there would be another high-level meeting.

The Foreign Office said Britain had urged both sides to seize the

opportunity Mr. Perez de Cuellar's efforts afforded.

One NATO diplomat said the basis of a settlement was clearly in place and this appeared not to have been destroyed by failure to decide one the next moves.

"The outlines of a solution are there," he said. "But they are painful for both sides and they won't get any less painful by one side or the other rejecting it."

A draft agreement discussed in New York envisaged a federal system for Cyprus in which separate Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot provinces would be linked under a central government.

Mr. Kyprianou said the document required further negotiations, while Mr. Denktaş insisted it should be signed in its existing form, leaving further negotiating to officials.

The island, torn by tension and periodic bloodshed for 30 years, has been divided since 1974, when Turkish forces occupied the northern third. Mr. Denktaş proclaimed this sector an independent state in 1983 but it is recognised only by Ankara.

Some Western diplomats felt the failure in New York might give Mr. Kyprianou and Mr. Denktaş a jolt and show them that brinkmanship could jeopardise a settlement. A new round of talks should be more productive, they said.

Others, more pessimistic, felt the New York failure could kill Mr. Perez de Cuellar's initiative and doubted the will of the two communal leaders to forge an agreement.

"I was astonished they got so far," one said. "These talks were a

bit of a mirage." However, arranging the meeting had been seen as a breakthrough and it had generally aroused high expectations in Western countries hoping for a solution to a major divisive issue between NATO allies Greece and Turkey.

This made the impact of its failure all the greater — especially as some diplomats feel that if a solution is not found soon, partition will become institutionalised and instituting a federal scheme impossible.

One analyst noted that the 1977 and 1979 Cyprus summits had both produced limited agreements, and said the fact that the New York session broke up in disarray augured ill for further moves in the near future.

U.S. considers joint effort with USSR for Mideast peace

By Alex Brummer in Washington and Martin Walker in Moscow

THE United States is preparing to hold talks with the Soviet Union on reducing conflict and tensions in the Middle East, as part of its widening effort for an improved dialogue with Moscow.

But it remains firmly opposed to a full-scale peace conference on the Palestinian question, Reagan administration officials said.

The U.S. informed Israel and Egypt last week of its intention to hold talks on the region with the Russians. The message was carried to Jerusalem by Mr. Mark Palmer, Deputy assistant secretary for European affairs, who is understood to have briefed the Israeli government on prospects for an improved flow of emigration to Israel from the Soviet Union.

During the freeze in superpower relations Jewish emigration was reduced to a trickle.

The decision to discuss Middle East security concerns with the Soviet Union follows President Reagan's speech to the United Nations last September, when he called for a meeting between the two countries "on the whole agenda of issues before us." It is understood that the U.S. may conduct similar regional discussions on other sensitive issues, including southern Africa and Afghanistan.

Officials disclosed that the U.S. and the Soviet Union have already had extensive diplomatic contacts

over the Gulf war, and future talks between U.S. and Soviet Middle East experts — might be expected to focus on Lebanon and arms supplies to the region.

The U.S. has strongly opposed a Geneva-type meeting on the wider problems of Middle East peace, believing it would become bogged down in empty rhetoric. It still believes that President Reagan's September peace plan of 1982, which called for an autonomous Palestinian entity on the West Bank, linked to Jordan, is the way forward.

Among the issues the U.S. would like to discuss with the Soviet Union is Moscow's arms supplies to Syria. The U.S. also thinks that the Soviet Union is encouraging Syria "not to be flexible in the Lebanon", and this is another subject which may come up.

The talks on the Middle East would be part of a series the U.S. hopes to hold with the Soviet Union on areas of tension in the world, to prevent the superpowers from drifting into a confrontation. With the Middle East still the world's most troubled region, it was clearly well suited for the start of such a dialogue.

U.S. officials point out that last year U.S. diplomats were able to convince the Russians that the U.S. supplies of advanced weaponry and equipment to the Gulf states — to protect them from Iranian attacks — were not an effort to establish new bases in the region which could be used for offensive purposes — The Guardian.

LETTERS

U.S. makes money from continuation of Gulf war

To the Editor:

FOLLOWING THE restoration of ties between the United States and Iraq last year, senior officials in Baghdad and Washington expressed hope that the step would open a new chapter of cooperation and understanding between the two countries. Shortly before that, the United States announced it was lifting a ban on the sale of American spare parts for Iraq's weapons and military hardware and aircraft.

By restoring diplomatic ties with Baghdad, Washington is believed by observers to have wanted to portray itself as a neutral factor in the Gulf war which has been raging for more than four years. These observers rightly believe that it is indeed the United States that is benefiting most from this war. It has even been giving part of the war spoils to Israel, which acts as an agent in the arms deals with the Iranian regime.

One cannot rule out the idea of this war dragging on and on as long as dealers like the U.S. and Israel are willing to supply the weapons. Egyptian journalist Mohammed Hassanin Haikal believes the war could well last over 20 years. Why? What a horrible idea?

Well, the United States holds hundreds of billions of dollars deposited in its banks by the Gulf countries, and Washington can hardly conceal its greed to lay its hands on these large deposits. What it is doing now is whipping up the Gulf war and trying to prolong it as much as possible. It is selling Gulf states air defence systems, aircraft and other types of weapons needed, as it says, for the defence of these countries in the face of an Iranian aggression. Of course the Gulf states would be needing the weapons if the war comes to their doorsteps, and therefore, they are willing to pay out for these weapons from their deposits in American banks.

On the other hand, the war of tankers between Iraq and Iran is not likely to end soon, and the Arab Gulf states will certainly find it essential to increase their financial aid to Iraq and to help it buy more weapons, again using part of their deposits in American banks. The continuation of this war means continuous erosion of Gulf Arab states' deposits in American banks, spent on arms which are most unlikely to be used by them. If the Arabs continue to adopt their cowardly stand and refrain from fighting along with Iraq against Iran, then the United States will continue the process of sapping their resources and pillaging their financial deposits mercilessly.

Most observers believe that both Iraq and Iran will continue fighting each other to the point of exhaustion and total economic collapse before the war can practically end. We find reason to believe this, especially as both countries have access to weapons which they can use to destroy each other's economy. The only factor which can save the day and end the war in Iraq's favour is an immediate and an all-Arab offensive on Iran. Ending this war means ending the suffering of many people in the region and prolonging the life of Arab deposits in American banks.

Elias Ghattas,
Amman.



Greece is learning to swim in EC waters

Greece, which became the newest member of the European Economic Community (EEC) in January 1981, has had its share of political and economic difficulties in adjusting to its new family. But now Athens appears to be coming of age, as Andreas Karamanlis explains.

ATHENS — "I intended to throw the Greeks into the sea, feeling sure that, in order not to drown, they would learn to swim," said Mr. Constantine Karamanlis, then prime minister of Greece, on the signing of his country's Treaty of Accession to the EEC. After the recent showdown at the Dublin summit, the Greeks feel for the first time that they are swimming.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu's insistence that Greek approval for the enlargement of the EEC would only follow the implementation of the Integrated Mediterranean Programmes, which would speed up economic development in the poor EEC states, may have caused shock and anger among his EEC partners — notably Britain and West Germany — and intense frustration in Madrid and Lisbon.

But paradoxically, just as the EEC reaches a low point of patience and sympathy with Greece, Dr. Papandreu's Dublin stand is seen in Athens as Greece's coming of age in the EEC, of which it became the newest member in January 1981.

Thus, upon his return, the prime minister found himself receiving compliments (albeit backhanded) for his "ultra European" attitude for no less than the Conservative opposition — the architects of accession under the premiership of Mr. Karamanlis in the second half of the 1970s, and the most virulent critics of the Socialists' past anti-EEC policies.

Aggravating though it may be to his partners, Dr. Papandreu's approach today is a far cry from the days when as leader of the opposition he preached withdrawal from the community. When his Socialist Party took power in October 1981, Dr. Papandreu said there would be a pull-out pending a referendum. Today the word is not even mentioned.

This shift partly reflects the in-

ternal Greek political balance between Dr. Papandreu and President Karamanlis. The latter is a fervent European who considers bringing Greece into the EEC to be one of his major political achievements, and who has made it clear that calling a referendum on withdrawal, which he would have to initiate, is out of the question.

But beyond the Karamanlis factor, Greece's receipts from the community have become conspicuously vital to its balance of payments. Foreign Ministry officials now pride themselves in overshooting the Conservative Party's projected receipts as they have grown more efficient in processing applications for finance to Brussels.

According to European Commission figures, net receipts soared from Dr10.1 billion (\$78 million) in 1981, the first year of membership, to Dr40.6 billion in 1982, Dr73.4 billion in 1983 and over Dr78 billion last year.

At the same time, there has been a noticeable shift in public opinion in Greece in favour of the EEC. Independent polls in the greater Athens area, where about one-third of the population is concentrated, have registered a gradual rise in pro-European sentiment starting in the spring of 1982. In July 1983, at the time of the European Parliament elections those saying "Yes" to EEC membership outnumbered the "Nos" by 52 per cent to 45 per cent.

Pollsters say this trend is continuing. They estimate that six out of 10 Greeks nationwide are today in favour of staying in the community.

The improvement in the EEC's image is partly due to the impact of the financial benefits on the farming areas. It is no longer only an EEC propagandist's dream to come across a Greek farmer deep in the country deftly calculating the year's crop subsidies in Eur-

opean currency units.

In the urban areas, where higher prices caused by an influx of EEC goods were an early negative factor, the public seems to have responded to the toning down of the Socialist government's anti-Community rhetoric.

This pro-EEC turn has been accompanied by a fundamental shift in Greek expectations regarding the Community. Greece's accession was largely a political decision, intended to bolster the fledgling democracy which succeeded the collapse of the colonels' dictatorship in 1974. As a result, attitudes particularly in Athens, about the economic realities of accession verged on the carefree.

This romance soon dissipated as the tough economic consequences of accession hit home. In 1981, Greece's overall trade deficit with the EEC increased by 19.2 per cent, while the agricultural trade balance, positive before accession, went into a deficit of Dr10.5 billion.

The influx of EEC goods contributed to double-digit annual inflation, of about twice the average EEC level. Despite a reversal of the trade trends in 1983, the National Ministry still believes the overall impact of accession on the Greek economy has been negative.

It was this new realism which prompted the "Greek memorandum" submitted to the commission by the Papandreu government in the spring of 1982. The memorandum was essentially a demand for special funding to improve Greece's standard infrastructure and a petition to be allowed to bend community competition rules in order to protect the weak domestic manufacturing industry and the economy in general from the pressures of accession.

The commission's response stressed that Brussels could not be expected to shoulder the structural problems afflicting the Greek economy. Nevertheless Greece was allowed to impose a special import regulatory tax in

1983, to be gradually dismantled by 1989, which effectively acts to protect the domestic market from EEC imports. Over the past three years Athens has also won the right to apply import quotas on a range of products.

The commission warns however that sympathy for the Greek case has been dwindling over the past months, partly because of budgetary stringency, but also because the view is gaining ground that Greece should be rewarded financially only to the extent that it fulfils community legal obligations.

The sore point is Greek infringement of community regulations. Exchange restrictions, tax questions, public supply contracts, and the setting up of a state pharmaceutical monopoly are said to be major areas of difficulty. But, according to the commission, the biggest problem lies in infringements which deliberately serve to keep Greece a closed market.

"We are trying to take a balanced view because we appreciate the weaknesses of the Greek economy. But member states such as Britain, which is interested in exporting whisky, simply look at the awful complications and says this is horrible," one commission official said.

Officials remain unperturbed at the growing number of cases facing Greece in the European Court, pointing out calmly that Athens ranks "only third" after Paris and Rome in its alleged infringement of EEC regulations. Greece will fight EEC battles for its national interests with the usual EEC weapons, they say, pointing to Mrs. Thatcher as a good example.

"If anything, we are more Community-minded than the British. All they want is a free-trade zone with some elements of a customs union. We want the EEC to have a political dimension. But you cannot have this with economic inequalities, and without trying for convergence," one official remarked — Financial Times news feature.

U.S. negotiators well-informed on arms issues

From Reuter

WASHINGTON — The three men appointed by President Reagan on Friday to negotiate with the Soviet Union on arms control are all experienced in international affairs and arms issues.

Chief negotiator
Max Kampelman

Mr. Kampelman, 64, is a prominent Washington, D.C., attorney and native of New York City.

The silver-haired lawyer headed the U.S. delegation to the Madrid Conference on European Security under President Carter and was kept on in that job by President Reagan.

A Democrat and a conservative on U.S.-Soviet relations, Mr. Kampelman was quoted in a recent magazine published by the ultra-conservative Heritage Foundation as roundly attacking

Maynard Glitman

Mr. Glitman, 51, is currently Communist and questioning "whether the Soviets would ever join us in a common effort towards peace."

Mr. Kampelman was a close associate of the late Vice-President Hubert Humphrey and served as Mr. Humphrey's legislative counsel when Mr. Humphrey was a U.S. senator from Minnesota.

In a brief statement issued today, he promised to work with energy in "the pursuit of peace, understanding and international stability."

In addition to being chief negotiator, Mr. Kampelman will head the delegation which will discuss the Reagan strategic defence initiative, or "Star Wars," which the President has said could eventually lead to anti-missile weapons based both on earth and in space.

U.S. representative to what the West calls the Mutual Balanced Force Reductions (MBFR) talks in Vienna.

Mr. Glitman was born in Chicago and is a career foreign service officer. He has served in Canada, The Bahamas and France and is currently U.S. permanent representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

He was named to the NATO post by President Carter. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, in making the announcement of the three appointments, said Mr. Glitman had done an outstanding job as representative at the MBFR talks.

Mr. Glitman will have the task of dealing chiefly with intermediate range nuclear forces (INF) in Europe. It is a touchy issue with the Kremlin and the Atlantic alliance, which is deploying U.S.-made Pershing-2 and

cruise nuclear missiles.

John Tower

A veteran U.S. senator from Texas, the 59-year-old Tower did not run for re-election last year. He served as chairman of the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee and was known as a political fighter and a tenacious supporter of the Pentagon.

As head of the Armed Services Panel, Republican Tower became an expert on arms and strongly resisted attempts to cut the defence budget.

"I don't think we put balancing the budget as our number one priority," he has said. "We put national security as our number one priority."

Mr. Tower will be the chief American negotiator on strategic weapons such as land and sea-based intercontinental missiles. "He knows the subject inside out," Mr. Shultz said.

Lebanon retreat: For what?

MUCH can be said about Israel's decision to redeploy and then withdraw from South Lebanon, but not about the effect of the withdrawal on the Middle East peace process. Again, we are led to believe that most of what Israel decides goes to the benefit of internal Israeli politics and politicians; and this is where it is indeed difficult to predict the next course of events in the area.

Assuming, for all practical purposes, that Shimon Peres' Labour Party stands to gain the most from the pullback in Lebanon, and that the Likud bloc has actually taken a beating from the redeployment-cum-withdrawal decision, what becomes of the chances that the so-called moderate camp in Israel will seek a compromise with the Arabs on the occupied territories? Will Labour play a dirty trick on the Likud and break up the "national coalition" government in time to win favour with the Israeli electorate or the smaller parties? Could Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc sustain its fragile unity, either under him or under David Levy or Ariel Sharon? How is any change likely to affect the stalled peace process? Or will the troubled economy of the Jewish state have no serious competitor, on the ladder of priorities, after Lebanon?

These are all pertinent questions that have to be asked by the interested parties in the Middle East and elsewhere. There may be no easy answers for them; but depending on which way things will evolve in Lebanon, and between Washington and Moscow, there might be new clues as to where the problems of this area are heading.

So far, Shimon Peres & Co. seem to be gaining the upper hand in Israel. From an image of the all-time loser, the Israeli prime minister appears to be finally moving towards success and the consolidation of his position within the Labour Party and the state. But is this going to be trend, and if so, what does the man have to offer the cause of peace? Another difficult question to add to the list above.

Meanwhile, we Arabs cannot afford to wait. The way we see things is that the previous Israeli government did not understand the limits of military power — it got itself entangled in Lebanon and could not get out. This government readily admitted failure and preferred retreat. So far nothing to do with peaceful intentions — all internal politics and nothing else. This vision leads us to think that only pressure can get the Israelis to concede things. So, we will use political pressure, everything we have, to break the stalemate, and hope that it will work. If not, then everybody should wait until disaster strikes.

This is the simple equation that not only the protagonists in the Middle East, but also the superpowers and the international community, should understand. Very little time is left. Hence the urgent need for stepped-up political pressure on Israel to compromise.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: More public participation

CROWN PRINCE Hassan Sunday stressed the importance of maintaining a constructive and responsible dialogue between government and citizens with the purpose of handling the country's problems in a positive manner. At a meeting with University of Jordan's Club members, Prince Hassan also stressed the importance of the democratic process in Jordan and the development of education and the care that should be given to our students here and abroad. But he also stressed the importance of bridging the gap separating the decision-makers and the society which is affected by the decisions.

Bridging this gap means allowing the public a more effective participation in government work and in planning and execution. In Jordan, we take pride in the cohesion among the members of the same family but to maintain this unity, members of the society should have a say in planning and execution of projects and there should be a continuous process of dialogue to achieve that end.

Al Dustour: Enter pullout phase one

THE ISRAELIS have embarked on a partial withdrawal of their troops from regions in South Lebanon they have been occupying since 1982. But this withdrawal underlines a number of facts that will be emerging on the political and military scene in Lebanon:

First: The Israelis will be withdrawing from densely populated regions only to avoid more casualties among their troops inflicted on them by the resistance. By deploying their forces in the most southern regions, away from resistance danger, the Israelis are hoping to prolong as much as possible their stay in South Lebanon.

Second: This first phase of withdrawal will present the Beirut government with a test because it will send its troops to deploy in the evacuated regions. These regions are still plagued with factional wars among the warring militias which aim to consolidate their positions at the expense of each other's destruction.

Third: The partial withdrawal will create an opportunity for some groups to attack Palestinian refugee camps and settlements in a manner reminiscent of the Sabra and Shatila massacres of 1982.

Fourth: This partial withdrawal will make it incumbent upon the U.N. forces to deploy over a larger area so as to protect refugee camps and local inhabitants, and thus achieve what Israel has been demanding: that the U.N. forces serve as a buffer zone in the South, defending northern Israeli settlements.

Sawt Al Shaab: UNIFIL role needs redefinition

THERE IS no doubt that Israel has discovered its blunder in occupying densely populated regions of South Lebanon which caused it to suffer so many casualties and placed additional financial burdens on its treasury.

The partial withdrawal which Israel is beginning now, followed a number of tactics and forms of pressure which it exercised against the Lebanese government through the Naqoura negotiations. Israel had at first refused to withdraw unless Lebanon accepted its terms, but it had to retreat in the face of Lebanon's tough stand and the escalated acts of the resistance.

With the partial withdrawal, Israel hopes to leave areas controlled by the warring militias which it hopes will continue their fighting and so complicate matters for the Beirut government. If this happens, Israel hopes that Lebanon will back down and accept Israel's terms and conditions. In order to foil Israel's hopes and plans, Lebanon has now agreed to return to the Naqoura talks and to allow U.N. forces to deploy in areas vacated by the Israeli forces.

Though we believe U.N. forces have an important role in keeping peace, yet earlier experience in the South proved that they cannot keep security for long unless a formula on their role is accepted by all parties to the conflict.

Palestinian tragedy remains untold in America

Zionists have undisputed control over influential U.S. press

By Grace Halsell

This is the first of a two-part article on Zionist influence, and in many instances outright control, of the American media.

WASHINGTON — Today many of the most influential American newspapers, including The New York Times and The Washington Post, are either owned or managed by American Jews who brook little or no criticism of Israel, regardless of what aggressive measures the Zionist state takes. Few Arab Americans or other writers who wish to present the Arab perspective can get published in the U.S. media on any consistent basis.

As if to add undeniable proof of its Zionist proclivity, the Washington Post and the American Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, to observe personally from the inside the paper's news operations.

The invitation came after the Post's officers and members of the council and the American Jewish Community Council held discussions on Jewish claims that news coverage in the Washington Post during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon was anti-Israeli.

No similar invitation was extended by the Post to any representative of the Arab American community, despite criticism from Arab American organizations of a pro-Israeli bias in the coverage of Middle East events by the Post and other major U.S. daily papers.

The Post apparently felt that it was more important to address the protests of the American Jewish community than the grievances of the Arab American community. In effect, the Post was inviting a Zionist observer to check what their predominantly pro-Israel staff was producing. Since its inception, the Post has had a high concentration of Jews, many of whom write, or allow to be written, only material from a Zionist viewpoint. The paper was founded by the late Eugene Meyer, whose daughter Katharine Graham today is chairman of the board of the Washington Post Company. Richard D. Simmons is president.

Other Jews in command at the Post include Howard Simons, managing editor; Meg Greenfield,

editorial page editor; and Stephen S. Rosenfeld, deputy editorial page editor.

Formerly, a non-Jew, Philip Geyelin, was editorial page editor, but after he began to write what Arabs would describe as knowledgeable editorials on the Middle East, he was replaced as editorial page editor by Greenfield who has not been known to deviate from a pro-Israel line.

Admittedly, Ronald Koven, former foreign editor of the Washington Post, says in Stephen Isaac's Jews and American Politics, there are, relative to the population, a "disproportionate number of Jews in the American media."

Looking at the New York Times, one finds a prime example of a U.S. newspaper dominated by the Zionist perspective. Pro-Israel owners and editors include Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, publisher; A.M. Rosenthal, executive editor; Seymour Topping, managing editor; Arthur Gelb, deputy managing editor; James L. Greenfield and Louis Silverstein, assistant managing editors; Max Frankel, editorial page editor, and Jack Rosenthal, deputy editorial page editor.

Are all of the Jews who run the Times pro-Israel? There are, for example, two editors, Mr. Topping and Mr. Greenfield, who are married to "gentiles." While it is true that no one has held a step-back to the hearts of all the Jews on the masthead to gauge the extent of each individual's loyalty as a Jew to the Jewish state, it remains clear that those who own the Times, those who edit the Times and those who write for the Times produce much praise and little or no criticism of the Zionist state of Israel.

When the Times prints a critical article on Israel, it is seldom written by an Arab scholar, but more likely by a moderate Zionist, such as Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, whose criticisms go only so far.

After the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, "The Times asked me to write an article," the Palestinian scholar, Hisham Sharabi of Geo-

orgetown University told me. "Then they hedged. They said my article was too strong. They had me rework it. Then they never ran it."

For any sharp criticism of Israel, the Times turns invariably to Anthony Lewis, the one Jew on the staff who with some regularity — perhaps once every three months — voices a dissent of Israeli policies. However, compared with the dozens of other writers who regularly praise or condone the Zionists, Mr. Lewis represents only a small, token gesture made by the Times to the Arab perspective.

Charlotte Curtis and Tom Wicker, associate editors, are the only non-Jews on the Times' masthead. Neither, to my knowledge, has ever written about the Middle East.

The Times editors who handle copy coming in from the Middle East play a stellar role in whitewashing Israeli-Zionist deeds.

For instance, during the 1982 Israeli bombardment of Beirut, Thomas L. Friedman, the Times bureau chief there, wired a story of civilians being killed and he said the Israeli bombing was "indiscriminate."

He wrote on Aug. 6 to discover editors had summarily cut the word "indiscriminate" from his lead on the previous day's bombing of Beirut.

"In outrage," reports the Columbia Journalism Review, in its November-December, 1982 issue, Mr. Friedman called his Manhattan editors that the bombing had "the apparent aim of terrorizing its (Beirut's) civilian population." In reply to Mr. Friedman's complaint, his editors said they had been "afraid to tell our readers." The correspondent thought this "thoroughly unprofessional."

Once I asked the well-known anti-Zionist rabbi, Elmer Berger, what, in his opinion, was the percentage of Zionists among the owners, editors and business-oriented operating groups within the Times.

"Overall, I can tell you that much of the Times coverage — as well as its lack of coverage of certain Arab issues — is because they

are aware of the concentration of Jews in New York," Dr. Berger said. "And they believe that a high percentage of this Jewish readership, because of indoctrination, is Zionist."

At least, Rabbi Berger continued, this was the explanation given to him and others who went to the Times to complain about its coverage of the Arab-Israel conflict. Berger said they asked for an appointment with one of the Times' top people. "And we were ushered in to talk with a non-Jew, Clifton Daniel, who was President Truman's son-in-law."

"So he gave us this explanation, that the Times owners and editors were not Zionist, but many of their readers were."

Daniel seemed to assume, Mr. Berger said, that a major newspaper such as the Times does not shape public opinion, which of course it does not.

The history of Israel is a perfect example.

It is so short a history that most Americans have read and learned about it only in their newspapers, and these newspapers, because their owners and managers are influenced by and/or controlled by Zionists, have told Arab history and Israeli history, as well as the conflict that continues today, only from one perspective.

For example, when I have talked to church and college groups about the plight of the Palestinians and said that thousands have been expelled from their homeland and other thousands have been jailed and tortured or shot, then invariably one American will ask, "But why isn't this in our newspapers?"

After I made a talk in an Edgemoor, North Carolina, Presbyterian church, a woman spoke up, "But you are not the only reporter to have gone to the Holy Land. Why haven't all the others seen what you saw? And reported on it?"

There are several reasons why reporters sent overseas generally do not write about the tragedy of the Palestinians. Most American reporters who go to the Middle East write for a large newspaper, such as the New York Times, which consistently assigns Jewish

writers to cover the Jewish state. They know in advance the editors expect stories that are favorable to the Zionist viewpoint. And they write what they know will be printed.

When I say in public that the Israelis are oppressing and terrorizing innocent Palestinians, I am voicing a "truth" personally garnered but not reported to the masses because as the Times editors admitted — and I think they spoke for a multitude of U.S. editors — they were "afraid to tell our readers."

Therefore, on hearing the Arab perspective, an audience is asked to think anew, to think what they have been told not to think. I am often viewing faces that look stunned, uncomfortable. One can, I have learned, in the United States criticize America or American policies with far greater freedom and impunity than one may criticize Israel or Israeli policies.

However, as freelance writer, earning my own living on a day-to-day basis and beholden to no company policy, I was at liberty to learn what anyone can learn after even the most cursory of visits to occupied Palestine. One quickly learns that a most repressive Zionist regime governs and militantly controls every movement of a people who are abused, beaten and mentally and physically tortured. Their crime: wishing to be free of their Zionist oppressors.

Generally, the writer on the staff of a major U.S. magazine or newspaper or wire service, such as the Associated Press, will not travel to learn about the every-day life of Palestinians. Indeed, there are no Western reporters based in any territory occupied by the Israelis.

Although a few reporters go on an occasional brief visit to the West Bank for an hour or so, the Western media has no reporters based in any Palestinian town such as Nablus, Hebron, Ramallah or Arab Jerusalem.

The majority of Western reporters, covering the Arab-Israeli conflict, stay in Tel Aviv where they get daily handouts of "news," all from the Zionist perspective. They listen to briefings staged by a dual American Israeli spokesman

for the Zionist state.

Formerly Zeev Chafetz, a native of Pontiac, Michigan, who moved to the Jewish state in 1967, was Israeli spokesman. After the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Mr. Chafetz was replaced by Morton Dolinsky, a native of New York, whose work experience included publicity for U.S. Jewish congressional candidates.

One reason given for Mr. Chafetz's removal was his emotional, sharp and vindictive criticism of reporters and cameramen covering the Israeli war in Lebanon who portrayed civilian casualties from Israeli bombs.

Even if Mr. Chafetz thought the media unfair to show civilian casualties, at least one U.S. Jewish reporter said the media failed to report the extent of civilian suffering.

As featured speaker at the World Press Institute's Pulitzer Forum on July 20, 1982, in Fort Worth, Texas, Seymour Hersh, author of the best-selling book on Kissinger, The Price of Power, frankly admitted that for balanced news on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, "I think we have to rely on the foreign press." He mentioned Le Monde and the Manchester Guardian.

"Go read them and you'll see a quantitative difference in their coverage of the war, with more focus on civilian casualties."

"Why is that?" Mr. Hersh asked. "Because there's a very strong pro-Israel bias in the U.S. and there's a basic bias in the U.S. that all Arabs are not quite the same as other people. More inferior. And somehow we've gone along with the notion that all of the people living in West Beirut are terrorists. So there's been less willingness to face up to what's happened there."

And in the United States, when a writer on the Middle East turns in copy with an Arab viewpoint, the reporter learns he or she is treading on dangerous ground.

As an example, Lawrence Mosher, now with the National Journal, admitted that at least on one occasion "pressure was brought to bear to silence me" when he was on the now-defunct National Observer. "Whenever journalists

or writers have attempted to write objectively on the Middle East, they have been attacked vehemently, doggedly and persistently by Zionist groups in this country," Mr. Mosher said in an interview with Edmund Ghareeb, editor of the book, Split Vision: Arab Portrayal in the American Media.

Georgie Anne Geyer, a Los Angeles Times syndicated columnist, told Mr. Ghareeb: "Those of us who are trying to do a fair job, not to be pro-Israel side, find it hard when the pressure is coming from the pro-Israel side." On the other hand, she complained, "I have never gotten one single letter from an Arab and the paper has not gotten one."

The Arabs and their friends are only now beginning, in a small way, to enter the arena of public relations and to present their viewpoints. The Zionists, by contrast, routinely ply editors and writers with releases and invitations to lunch and somehow, by persistence, persuade the press, first of all, to be aware of their humanity and secondly, to print their viewpoint.

Editors and writers notice that Zionists are constantly in their offices. James McCartney, foreign and security affairs specialist of the Knight Ridder newspaper chain in Washington, told Mr. Ghareeb: "I don't think any chief editorial writer for a paper in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Detroit or Chicago goes for many months without a visit from someone representing the Jewish community and with a pro-Israel view. They will come by with an invitation for a luncheon or something of that sort."

On the other hand, the Arab Americans do not make any concerted effort to know and influence journalists. Moreover, they do not have an input in the analyses of the news because they do not own any of the nation's newspapers, large or small. Why don't the Arabs buy a U.S. newspaper? That question is often asked. And I have not heard a good reason for their not doing so.

One reason, however, might be that Arabs have become sensitive about Zionists' charges made

from time to time of a so-called petrodollar "take over" of American business. When Arabs assume part interest in a U.S. bank or business, the American media report this as if it were fraught with all the dangers of a Communist invasion. Arabs buying a newspaper would give the purchasers a high visibility, and Arab businessmen thus far have not sought this.

Their failure to buy into the media may be a primary reason the Arabs have exerted so little influence in the United States. They have failed in communicating their own cases for a variety of other reasons. Some of the causes lie in the Arabs' own lack of understanding or appreciation, for one reason or another, of how the West operates, and the methods required to achieve "success" as the Americans might define it.

Because the Arabs have exerted almost no influence and pro-Israeli pressure groups exert so much influence, the end result has been "the overwhelming dominance of the Zionist-Israeli point of view," Professor Michael Sulzeman, an Arab American of Kansas State University, believes. Dr. Sulzeman, who has made a study of Zionism and the U.S. media, adds that within the context of Western pluralism, "the Arabs would be better served if they seek effective means to counteract or at least modify the Zionist influence, instead of merely fatalistically condemning Western support of Israel as 'imperialist'."

While Arabs complain, the Jews, by contrast, not only own many daily newspapers, they also have a press totally their own. The New York Jewish Press and the National Jewish Monthly, each has a circulation of more than 200,000. They are part of the Anglo-Jewish press that comprises 140 newspapers with a combined circulation of about 400,000.

One Fort Worth, Texas non-Jewish merchant told me he felt obliged to advertise in Jewish publications "because there would be Zionist pressure against my business if I did not do so." — Arab News, Jeddah.

U.S. aid to Afghan rebels is largest covert operation since era of Vietnam war

By Bob Woodward and Charles R. Babcock

THE Central Intelligence Agency's secret aid to the insurgents fighting the Soviet invaders in Afghanistan has mushroomed into the largest U.S. covert operation since the Vietnam war era, according to informed sources.

With Rep. Charles Wilson, D-Texas, as a chief catalyst for rapid escalation, Congress has nearly tripled the Reagan administration's initial request for the Afghan programme to what will amount to about \$250 million for this fiscal year. This would amount to more than 80 per cent of the CIA's annual expenditures for covert operations, the sources said.

In addition, three other countries in the Middle East and Asia are expected to provide \$200 million. With this money, the annual aid package to the Afghan insurgents is approaching \$500 million. The sources also said that there is discussion that the insurgents could use \$600 million in the next fiscal year.

The Afghan operation and the manner in which it has expanded is becoming a subject of heated controversy in the administration, the CIA and Congress. A number of officials, who do not want to be identified, said that the programme has grown too much and too fast. It was in danger of getting out of hand and might trigger an escalation of Soviet military operations in Afghanistan.

Others, including Mr. Wilson and congressional supporters, said that the U.S. government is not doing enough, that equipment being used is second-rate and that the insurgents are not getting enough supplies and ammunition. Some have advocated supplying new, sophisticated U.S.-made ground-to-air missiles but the CIA vetoed this, according to the sources.

Of particular controversy has been Mr. Wilson's successful efforts to obtain money for the CIA to supply advanced, heavy anti-aircraft cannon to the insurgents, a decision a number of officials view as a potential escalation.

By year's end, the U.S. programme, which supplies weapons, ammunition, clothing, medical

supplies and money for food, is expected to support an estimated 200,000 to 300,000 full- or part-time insurgents who are battling a Soviet army of 110,000 troops in what intelligence reports and various eyewitness accounts describe as one of the most brutal, savage conflicts of modern times.

"This is a programme that is on the verge of blowing up," one intelligence official said. "It is an area of the world where there are great tensions... The blinking red lights are going off in that region now (and) the focus is shifting from Central America."

One congressional critic of the escalation said, "We should have learned from Vietnam about over-technologising primitive people." Another intelligence official said, "We're going to kill the programme with success."

Where there are hundreds of cases documenting human rights violations by the invading Soviet army, the U.S. government now has confirmed reports that the CIA-supported insurgents drug, tortured and forced from 50 to 200 Soviet prisoners to live like animals in cages.

In addition, congressional sources said that the insurgents may be assassinating Soviet military officers and administrators. U.S. intelligence officials said they cannot and do not control the operations of the resistance fighters and have no knowledge of any assassinations.

The large increases began in the fall of 1983 with a secret Wilson amendment to the defence appropriations bill rechanneling \$40 million of Defence Department money to the CIA for the Afghan operation, the sources said. Part of this money was for the new, foreign-made, heavy anti-aircraft cannon. Another \$50 million for more supplies and weapons was reprogrammed at Mr. Wilson's initiative in the same way last July. The Senate, at the urging of Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo., chairman of the Senate intelligence committee's budget subcommittee, then took the lead in increasing the annual aid to the point where it is about \$250 million for fiscal year 1985.

The specific amount for 1985 is difficult to calculate, according to sources, because there is some

unspent money from previous years that is expected to be used this year. But the sources said spending will range from \$250 million to \$280 million.

It is clear from interviews with more than 20 officials familiar with the Afghan covert aid programme that over the last 18 months, while public attention has been focused on the CIA's activities in Nicaragua, Congress opened the dollar flow to this much-less-visible programme. By contrast, Congress last year cut off funding for opponents of the government in Nicaragua that was one-tenth the size, costing \$24 million a year and supporting 15,000 "contras" fighting the Sandinista regime.

Some in the Reagan administration and the CIA at first opposed the large increases in the Afghan operation and were not sure that the supply line, which runs secretly through neighbouring Pakistan, could absorb the increased flow. But officials said that after facing years of public congressional hostility to the secret war in Nicaragua, the CIA finally went along and welcomed support in covert operations aimed at thwarting the Soviets in Afghanistan.

"It was a windfall to them," said one congressional intelligence official. "They'd faced so much opposition to covert action in Central America and here comes the Congress helping and throwing money at them, putting money their way and they decided to say, 'Who are we to say no?'"

Increasing the Afghan programme also gave Congress a chance to show it is not soft on Communism, congressional sources said. "Over the last two years," one senior administration official said, "as the Nicaraguan operation became the bad war, the one in Afghanistan became the good war."

The decision to supply the new anti-aircraft cannon, for use against Soviet helicopter gunships that are deployed against civilians and insurgents, has been especially controversial. One intelligence official said, "When this (weapon) gets in and if helicopters start getting shot out of the sky with regularity, we've got a problem... A weapon like this could

force the Soviets to become more indiscriminate in their use of force. They could begin much more bombing. (It could) change the equation radically."

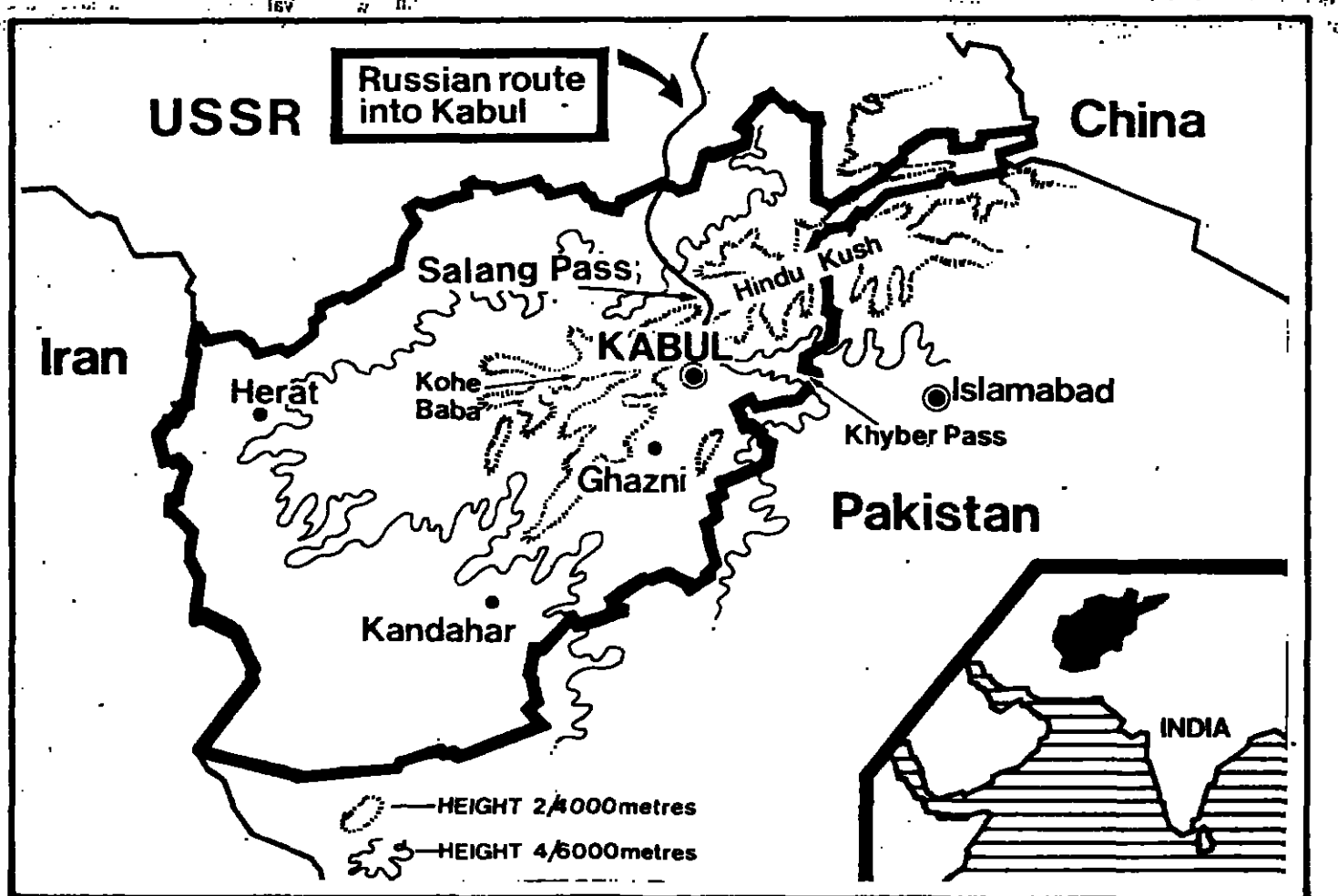
Some intelligence officials cite Mr. Wilson's involvement with the new anti-aircraft cannon as an example of what the CIA calls "micromanaging" of its operations from Capitol Hill. Mr. Wilson confirms his role on behalf of the Afghan resistance but declines to discuss the numbers relating to his legislative efforts. Mr. Wilson said in an interview that the new cannon, with armour-piercing explosive shells, "means there aren't going to be any more Soviet helicopters going back to Kabul (the Afghan capital) with holes in them. They're going down."

Of the covert aid package increase, Mr. Wilson said, "We're talking about peanuts. We're talking about one B-1 bomber. I'd give them five." (The B-1 bomber costs about \$200 million.) "There were 58,000 dead in Vietnam and we owe the Russians one and you can quote me on that... I have had a slight obsession with it, because of Vietnam. I thought the Soviets ought to get a dose of it... I've been of the opinion that this money was better spent to hurt our adversaries than other money in the Defence Department budget."

House colleagues and members of the Senate tell of Mr. Wilson's dogged effort to secure support for the Afghan and the new anti-aircraft cannon. Sources said that Mr. Wilson even arranged a mule-breeding programme for the resistance to haul the new cannon, ammunition and other supplies into the mountains of Afghanistan.

The sudden mushrooming of aid, through supply pipelines set up after the Soviet "invasion" in December 1979, also has created massive control problems. By some accounts, as little as 20 per cent of the weapons and supplies reach the Afghan resistance because the material must travel through a long, complicated supply route. The CIA maintains that 80 per cent is getting into the hands of the fighters.

Government and intelligence reports also show some cases of human-rights violations by the



insurgents. One well-informed source said recently, "There are 70 Russian prisoners living lives of indescribable horror." Several administration officials said that the United States is going to have to face this problem.

According to two sources, the insurgents have made requests for assassination equipment and asked for information on locations of high-ranking Soviet generals and administrators. But there are no proven, clear cases of assassination. The CIA is prohibited by executive order from supporting assassination directly or indirectly.

One source said that the resistance is "not going to worry about a presidential executive order and they are certainly going to ask for sniper weapons and if they ask for them, they're going to get them." CIA officials said that they have no way of preventing individual tribesmen or resistance leaders half a world away from taking such actions. "We don't control the operation," one official said. "We support it."

Through all of this, officials said the government of Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq is walking a diplomatic tightrope because most of the covert aid is channelled through his country. Two key intelligence sources said

that the massive increase in the covert programme gives Gen. Zia leverage to demand more U.S. aid for his country. These sources voiced fears that, in the extreme, Gen. Zia's position might be so strengthened that he would request assistance in building his nuclear weapons, a goal at odds with U.S. policy and denied by Pakistan.

Many details of the Afghan covert aid programme have been reported since the Carter administration. But officials said the sudden increase in the last 18 months and the lobbying of Mr. Wilson with the support of most members of Congress have allowed little time for the administration or Capitol Hill to debate the consequences of various tactical decisions, such as the new anti-aircraft cannon, or the funding increases.

Mr. Wilson's efforts began in earnest after he and then-Rep. Clarence D. Long, M-Md., long-time chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee overseeing foreign aid, who was defeated last November, returned from a trip to the Afghan resistance camps in Pakistan in August 1983. CIA aid to the insurgents was about \$30 million that year and the agency had not requested an increase for the next fiscal year, according to sources.

In a recent interview, Mr. Long said the insurgents told him during the 1983 trip that "they wanted something to knock down helicopters." He said that Gen. Zia agreed the insurgents should have improved anti-aircraft weapons. At the same time the insurgents had, only machine guns which often hit and damaged the Soviet helicopters, but did not have the firepower to bring them down. In addition, the Soviet-made S-A7, a shoulder-launched, heat-seeking missile, one of the items purchased as part of the covert programme, has turned out to be unreliable.

shells." Mr. Wilson said it is unusual for a congressman to add money to a covert programme and that he knows of no other such case. "It was an easy sell," he said.

Mr. Wilson reportedly had no trouble persuading the members of the House-Senate conference committee that the insurgents were fighting courageously and were not asking for food or medicine but some way to defend themselves against the gunships.

The cannon are due to arrive in several months on the battlefields in Afghanistan, the sources said, and more will be provided if the weapon proves itself.

The cost of each new cannon, plus transportation and initial supplies of ammunition, is put at about \$1 million. Because the weapons are rapid-fire and the armour-piercing shells they use are expensive, some estimates suggest that millions of dollars will have to be spent to supply enough ammunition each year. Concern about this expense and the overall impact the new cannon may have in Afghanistan was expressed by a number of Republican and Democratic members of the Senate intelligence committee during a briefing on the matter last year, according to sources — The Washington Post.

San Francisco routs Miami to win their 2nd Super Bowl

PALO ALTO, California (R) — Quarterback Joe Montana threw three touchdown passes and ran for a touchdown Sunday as the San Francisco 49ers crushed the Miami Dolphins 38-16 to win the Super Bowl Football Championship.

The triumph set off a wild celebration by a crowd of almost 85,000 at Stanford stadium on the Stanford University campus.

Montana, who was named the game's most valuable player after throwing for a Super Bowl record of more than 300 yards, upstaged his younger and more publicized counterpart in the Miami Dolphins, Dan Marino.

The victory gave the 49ers their second Super Bowl — the National Football League Championship — in the last four years while the Dolphins, appearing in a record-tying fifth Super Bowl, lost for the second time in three seasons.

Marino, who set regular season records for most touchdown passes and most yards passing during the 1984 season, got off to a good start. He moved the Dolphins on their first possession to the San Francisco 19-yard line before Eric Von Schamann kicked a 37-yard field goal to give Miami a 3-0 lead

in the first quarter.

But the 49ers, using a more balanced passing and running attack, responded quickly as Montana connected with running back Carl Monroe on a 33-yard scoring strike to put San Francisco on top 7-3 after Ray Wersching kicked his first of five consecutive extra points.

Miami went ahead for the last time minutes later when Marino completed five straight passes, the last a two-yard toss to tight end Dan Johnson to give the Dolphins a 10-7 lead.

In the second quarter Montana and the 49ers blew the game wide open as they scored 21 straight points on an eight-yard pass to fullback Roger Craig, a six-yard run by Montana and a two-yard run by Craig, who set a Super Bowl record with three touchdowns, to move in front 28-10.

A pair of Von Schamann field goals in the final 12 seconds, thanks in part to a 49er fumble on

a kickoff, gave San Francisco a 28-16 halftime lead.

But in the second half the tough 49er defence held the Dolphins scoreless. It was the first time this season that the Dolphins had scored under 20 points.

The 49ers widened their lead in the third quarter on a 27-yard field goal by Wetsching and Montana a final touchdown pass, a 16-yarder to Craig.

The 38-point output by San Francisco tied the Super Bowl record set last year by the Los Angeles Raiders when they routed the Washington Redskins 38-9.

The game began with help from President Reagan who, by television satellite link, tossed a coin to determine which team would kick off.

The victory completed a spectacular season for the 49ers, a three-point favourite, who posted a 15-1 regular season record and then won three more games in post-season play for a record 18 triumphs. Miami finished the regular season at 14-2.

Montana threw for 331 yards, connecting on 24 of 35 passes, with no interceptions, and ran for 59 yards.



PRETENDER'S CROWN: Welshman Colin Jones smiling in defeat after WBA world welterweight champion American Don Curry (left) retained his title and then placed the crown on Jones' head in a friendly gesture in the ring at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, England Saturday night. A bleeding cut to Jones' nose stopped the fight in the fourth round. (AP wirephoto)

Lauda prepares for fourth title bid

ESTORIL, Portugal (R) — Niki Lauda, three times world motor racing champion, began preparations for the defence of his Formula One crown Monday when he appeared at Portugal's Estoril circuit for the first of several days of tests.

"I'll be trying to win it again. We'll have to see how things develop, but I'm ready for it," the Austrian told Reuters before making his first test run around the circuit where he clinched the title last October.

Lauda, who previously won the title in 1975 and 1977 before his triumph last year, was one of the

first out in the drizzle to test the engine and tyres on his McLaren in preparation for the opening race of this season at Rio de Janeiro on April 7.

Frenchman Patrick Tambay and his Renault team were also early starters. "Everyone's eager to get going," he said.

Tambay predicted a tough contest again this year between Lauda and his McLaren team mate Alain Prost of France, the 1984 runner-up.

The Portuguese Grand Prix, the second race of this year's championship, will be held here on April 21.

U.S. Olympic medallists score 2nd pro victories

ATLANTIC CITY (R) — Three U.S. Olympic boxing medallists won their second straight professional bouts Sunday as Evander Holyfield and Meldrick Taylor scored unanimous six-round decisions while Pernell Whitaker won by a fourth round knockout.

Holyfield, the bronze medallist in the light heavyweight division at last summer's Los Angeles Olympics, won a 6-0 victory against Eric Winbush, now 14-9. Taylor, the Olympic featherweight champion also won all six rounds in beating Dwight Pr-

ichet, who has an 11-6 record. Whitaker, the lightweight gold medallist, stopped Danny Avery, whose record is 10-4-2, after four rounds of a scheduled six-round lightweight bout.

Holyfield floored Winbush with a left hook to the body and a right to the head in the second round, then dropped him with a flurry of shots to the body in the third round.

Whitaker dropped Avery with a left to the head in the second round and battered him with body blows in the fourth round.

Lester Piggott reported to be retiring

LONDON (R) — Lester Piggott, the outstanding British jockey of his generation, will retire at the end of the 1985 domestic horse-racing season, British newspapers reported Monday.

Piggott, who rode his first winner in August 1948 and has amassed a record total of 28 classic successes, was quoted as saying: "I was sorely tempted to go on a bit longer but the time must surely have come to call it a day."

Piggott's last ride would be at Doncaster on November 9, four days after his 50th birthday, the reports said. He would then begin a new career as a trainer.

Some doubt remained about the finality of Piggott's decision with one reliable source suggesting he might continue his riding career if an outstanding two-year-old colt emerged during 1985.

During his 36-year career Piggott has ridden 4,315 winners and his tally of victories in the English classic races which includes nine Epsom Derby wins is unlikely to be challenged for many years.

National soccer team plays in Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian sport delegation has left for Cairo on Sunday to take part in the celebrations marking Egyptian police feasts which will take place on Tuesday. During its stay in Egypt, the national Jordanian football team will play two football matches with the Egyptian Police team.

This visit comes in response to an invitation by the Police Sport Union of Egypt.

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W. Germany, USSR open talks on trade

BONN (R) — The Soviet Union and its biggest Western trading partner, West Germany, opened high-level trade talks in Bonn Monday which Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government expects will lead to improved political as well as economic ties.

The two-day session of the Soviet-German joint economic commission follows a frosty spell in relations and is the first ministerial-level contact between Bonn and Moscow since the agreement earlier this month between the superpowers to reopen arms talks.

While West German industry sees the talks leading to billions of dollars of business over the rest of the 1980s, Mr. Kohl's centre-right coalition is hopeful that they will produce a political thaw after months of bitter Soviet media attacks on Bonn's East European policies.

Economics Minister Martin Bangemann, who heads Bonn's delegation, was quoted Monday

by the Neue Osnabruecker Zeitung as saying that Soviet Bloc allegations that Bonn wanted to turn back the clock in Eastern Europe were not in Moscow's interest.

"I am quite sure that the good results I expect (from the commission session) in the economic field, will help solve other disputed issues," he told the newspaper.

The German-Soviet talks follow senior-level U.S.-Soviet trade negotiations, the first for six years, that took place in Moscow two weeks ago.

Mr. Kohl's coalition, like previous West German governments, considers trade a stabilising element in East-West relations and has pursued a business-as-usual policy with Moscow, irrespective of fluctuations in the political climate.

Bonn officials note that the joint commission session, originally due last September, comes as Moscow lays the groundwork for its next five-year plan, for 1986-1990.

E. German economy maintains strength

EAST BERLIN (R) — Annual economic figures released at the weekend confirmed East Germany as one of the strongest East European economies with rising productivity and stable foreign trade, Western diplomats said Monday.

The 1984 economic report showed good results in agriculture with a record 11.5 million tonnes grain harvest and continued spiralling use of scarce raw materials and fuel.

A senior embassy economic expert said the rise in overall industrial production, despite the stagnation of total investments at around 56 billion marks (\$18 billion), showed that 1981 laws forcing economies on raw materials were now taking effect.

Produced national income, the nearest to the Western Gross National Product, rose 5.5 per cent while labour productivity rose five per cent — a result that has eluded Moscow planners.

This success is reflected in the enthusiasm of Western banks in granting two big loans last year. Economic experts here say they have not been drawn in full and could be intended as a "security" against future fluctuations in East-West relations rather than for immediate investment.

Diplomats cautioned that the

1984 figures could be slightly distorted by extra working days and by a mild winter.

This winter has seen deployment of over 20,000 troops and emergency workers to maintain fuel supplies.

Moscow cut its oil supplies to its allies by some 10 per cent in the early 1980s and has also raised its prices to world market levels, forcing East Germany to boost production of its only indigenous fuel, lignite.

Mine production targets, a constant headache for Soviet planners, were overfulfilled here last year.

"They seem to be keeping up growth well despite limited investment and the overall picture in both the domestic and foreign trade areas is generally good," one senior expert said.

Some shortages have shown up in consumer goods, however. East German sources said officials planned action to stop the "backdoor" raising of prices on some consumer goods in a society which boasts it has no inflation.

Complaints have grown that some articles are disappearing from ordinary department stores and then being offered for sale at special so-called "exquisite" stores where prices are always substantially higher.

Dollar edges higher amid uncertainty over interventions by central banks

LONDON (R) — The dollar edged higher on European currency markets Monday but was held in check by uncertainty over how far central banks will go to halt the record-breaking progress it has made over the past year.

Traders said the dollar's advance seemed to have stalled for the time being and few speculators were willing to buy up large amounts of the American currency for fear the central banks would intervene to help other currencies.

But with confidence in the U.S. economy continuing to run high, there was still a firm floor under the dollar and it was beginning to edge upwards again, they noted.

In Frankfurt, the dollar was set at 3.1680 marks at the midday fixing session, compared with Friday's dip to 3.1650 in New York after reports of intervention by the U.S. central bank. It then improved to 3.1710 in early afternoon trading.

The uncertainty stemmed from a meeting of the Group of Five finance ministers in Washington last week. With unusual openness, the ministers from France, Japan, Britain, the U.S. and West Germany said they would act to protect weak currencies if they thought the dollar was becoming unreasonably strong.

With U.S. banks closed Monday for a holiday, the topic of central bank intervention dominated in very quiet business.

Against other currencies, the dollar improved slightly to 2.6670 Swiss francs from 2.6615 at the

New York close on Friday but slipped to 253.73 yen from 253.85.

For once sterling was out of the limelight, having dominated the headlines a week ago when it slid to a record low of \$1.1020 before the government forced a steep rise in interest rates. The pound traded at \$1.1235, half a cent down on the New York close, and was steady against other currencies.

U.S. officials predict progress on cutting deficit

Meanwhile, noting that record budget deficit is prime factor in the dollar's recent surge, top Reagan administration officials say in Washington they are prepared to negotiate with Congress on almost any item in the president's forthcoming budget proposals except defence spending.

The budget, due to be unveiled early next month, would slash federal spending by \$50 billion in the 1986 fiscal year, including an \$8.7 billion cut in defence spending, White House Chief-of-Staff Mr. James Baker said Sunday.

Mr. Reagan was unlikely to agree to make any bigger reductions in defence spending, Mr. Baker said on the NBC news programme, "Meet the Press."

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, appearing on the same show, called the administration's proposed reduction in defence spending impressive.

Mr. Regan has announced that Mr. Regan and Mr. Baker will swap jobs if the Senate confirms Mr. Baker as treasury secretary.

Mr. Regan said the administration was prepared to negotiate the proposed defence outlay was maintained and the deficit, expected to top \$200 billion this year, was reduced.

The treasury secretary said, "there will be many cuts that are going to draw loud screams..."

"We have to talk about it. We can't just stonewall it and say, 'take this or nothing'," he added.

If approved, the administration's budget would cut the deficit to between \$120 and \$130 billion by 1988, without tax increases or cuts in social security benefits, he said.

Equally important to the administration was simplifying the income tax structure, Mr. Regan said.

The president is likely to back a tax simplification package submitted by the treasury department, Mr. Baker said.

Latin America eases way for investors

LONDON: "It is important to encourage fresh flows of new direct investment which will contribute directly to future growth... Importers of capital must welcome and facilitate investment... If they are to induce profitable investment, which I have suggested is in their long-term interest, they must reduce the threat to future profitability."

Thus spoke Mr. Ian Stewart, economic secretary to the treasury, last month. His was one of the most recent of a host of admonitions that have been delivered to the developing world in the past years as the developed countries seek better terms for their investors.

The signs are that Latin America, at least, is taking heed of such reprimands. The region is doing so, not so much because the Latin American governments have been convinced to raise the bar for foreign investment — they have been, and continue to be, wary of allowing foreign capital to return to the position of dominance over their public utilities and industries which it occupied at the beginning of the century.

Rather they see foreign investors as bringing new capital that Latin America is finding it increasingly difficult to obtain from the commercial banks.

Burdened with an outstanding foreign debt of \$350 billion, the region has seen its new set foreign borrowing fall from \$41 billion in 1981 to only \$1 or \$2 billion last year.

With the fall in borrowing from banks Latin American governments are turning increasingly to attracting new foreign investment and are dismantling the

obstacles and limitations to such investment that many of them had spent decades building up.

Collectively the governments have scrambled to support the Inter-American Development Bank's new vehicle to encourage foreign investment, the Inter-American Development Corporation (IDC).

With an initial capital of \$200 million, the IDC should be in business towards the end of next year with funds subscribed by the U.S. and Latin American governments and some of the IDC's non-regional members.

(Britain, Belgium and the Scandinavian countries are among those non-regional members of the IDC which decided not to subscribe.)

The IDC will hope to do for Latin America in particular what the International Finance Corporation, an agency of the World Bank, with a paid up capital of \$544 million and borrowings of \$548 million, has been trying to do in the world at large, viz putting entrepreneurs in touch with domestic and foreign sources of capital.

The countries of the Andean Pact (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia) which for more than a decade under the renowned Decision 24 of the Andean Pact Commission decreed a common limit on profit remittances by local subsidiaries of foreign multinationals and which closed off large areas of their domestic economies to foreign investors are now ceasing to impose those limitations.

Venezuela, which in the 1970s had been severe in its implementation of Decision 24, is now

seeking to attract foreign investors by scrapping many local restrictions.

Foreigners are now being allowed on to the boards of Venezuelan companies and are being permitted to buy Venezuelan real estate.

Peru, which in the days of the nationalist military government of the 1960s and early 1970s chased out foreign oil companies, has recently signed a big exploration contract with Shell. Argentina is doing the same.

To the north, Mexico, which developed a maze of regulations to stop its economy being too dominated by the U.S. investors next door, is relaxing those regulations.

Last year the government in Mexico City announced that it would henceforth allow majority or total control of companies in selected areas to pass to foreigners if they provided large numbers of new jobs, created exports and brought new technologies.

The first fruits of this change in attitude is the IBM project to invest \$300 million in a new factory near Guadalajara to produce micro-computers.

The decision which is expected to be announced shortly to allow IBM to have 100 per cent control of its new factory is seen as a highly important precedent in Mexico.

Nevertheless, there are parts of the Mexican government machine which are firmly against opening the doors too wide to foreign investors and they can be counted on to make things difficult for over-reager capitalists from abroad.

A recent survey by the U.S. Department of Commerce finds

Renault chief to step down

PARIS (R) — The head of France's ailing state-owned carmaker Renault will step down Tuesday capping weeks of speculation over his position prompted by the group's slumping car sales and heavy financial losses.

In a brief statement Monday announcing the move, Renault said the government would name a successor to outgoing chairman Mr. Bernard Hanon at the weekly cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed quietly mixed but with a slightly lower bias as selective issues met profit-taking following Friday's late surge, dealers said.

The FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT was down 0.8 at 1277.1 having touched a new peak of 1280.9 earlier in the session.

Government bonds showed losses of up to 1/16 point for short and long dated stocks while mediums rose by 1/8 point. Activity in index linked issues saw the 2 1/2 per cent treasury 2011 stock "taplet" exhausted at £101 1/4 and the government broker also supplied some of the £150 million 2 1/2 per cent treasury 2001 stock.

Gold shares and north Americans were mixed.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.1255/65	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3210/13	Canadian dollars
	3.1677/87	West German marks
	3.5785/5800	Dutch guilders
	2.6635/45	Swiss francs
	63.46/49	Belgian francs
	9.7000/50	French francs
	1946.5/7.5	Italian lire
	253.67/77	Japanese yen
	9.0990/1040	Swedish crowns
	9.1725/75	Norwegian crowns
	11.3100/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	306.65/307.15	U.S. dollars

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 22, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Despite delays in unfinished duties and an older person who wants to restrict your movement, you now have the chance to make a considerable amount of progress.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have an opportunity to handle problems wisely that have been bugging you for some time. Think more objectively.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Find better ways of handling business problems and show that you persevere at regular work.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get better organized, and you can accomplish much more and branch out to new, more profitable, interests.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Listening to a partner who is very practical is wise and your work will not be such a bore to you.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get busy at your work and avoid that erstwhile friend who does not comprehend your viewpoints and likes to argue.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Try to get your work load diminished in some way so that you need not be confined so much.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Instead of putting problems out of your mind, talk them over with family ties who can assist you in solving them properly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you have a talk with one involved in your business routines, you get good ideas for improving the situation at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Stick to business and don't run off on some tangent and show you are sensible. Talk to a monetary expert.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Different action is needed in order to get better results with some plan you have started. Be practical yet conventional.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are in a mood to upset your apocryphal of interests, but go to an advisor who can soothe your anger.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Some situation that has you at sizes and seems can be improved with the assistance of good friends.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she can easily combine standard methods with new and up-and-coming ones and produce excellent results, so give the right type of education that will be helpful in such direction. One who will adhere to any course once started with steadfastness but take time for good suggestions.

THE Daily Crossword

By May Mannix

ACROSS

- Spring bloomer
- Stance
- Gambling time
- Hole
- Consumes
- Cartel of song
- Curtail
- Stage adjunct
- Author Mine
- Sculptor's item
- Final utterance
- Hep to
- Silps by
- Delayed
- Tax org.
- Actress Ekberg
- Stream
- Future flower
- Wolf or ranger
- Schussboomer
- Telegram
- Member of the flock
- Get. river
- Kind of demonstration
- Violin pin
- Safe
- Humor
- Camelot levers
- Certain levers
- Grips
- Out-and-out
- Senseless
- Sharp pains
- Long time
- Br. stool
- Strong
- Light tune
- Bar legally
- Haraldic band
- Prong
- Home appliance
- Uncanny
- Fisherman's
- hope
- "Trinity"
- author
- Secluded places
- in Parth
- Uth's flower
- low's flower
- Great or tumble
- Moved along
- border of
- Sacred songs
- Precipitation
- Fill to excess
- Baseball's
- Lombardi
- Approaches
- Church calendar
- Ledge
- Movie dog
- Night light
- Bugle call
- Sault — M.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

THIRDS: BUDY, ASHY, MOXIE, ESAD, SIVE, EVIAD, TADY, OODR, NEMIES, ROMPERS, GUILD, ADRA, WIE, VEIAY, WODS, PSI, ERIS, MOD, BLINDS, INVITED, FREDDIE, NEEDED, THE, FEELS, REIP, SHOWGRIS, AISI, TIDE, REOS, BUTLER, ADRA, PRESABE, UNION, VINE, TUMER, SEIN, UNIT, HENNA, ERIS, REOS, ESSIS.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME. By Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YEVAH

TAMID

YURTIP

INKELT

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NOVEL, BISON, ECZEMA, SUBURB

Answer: What a garbage truck is — A MESS "HAUL"

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

Mitterrand urges unity as Kanaks take hard line

NOUMEA, New Caledonia (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand has appealed for calm in the troubled Pacific territory of New Caledonia, but militant Kanaks Monday maintained a hard line on their demands for independence.

"Only dialogue can avoid passion and drama," Mr. Mitterrand said in a recorded speech broadcast here Monday. "With unity and talking instead of division we will go further."

Mr. Mitterrand, who visited New Caledonia for 12 hours on Saturday, said in a televised statement issued in Paris after his return that New Caledonia was vital to French strategic interests in the region and France wanted to build up its military presence here.

He ordered the French naval base at Noumea to be strengthened. But Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) leader Yewene Yewene countered that France could discuss defence matters with the Kanaks after it had granted them sovereignty of New Caledonia.

Mr. Yewene also said in a radio broadcast that France had no right to give guarantees to the island's European and Asian communities on their future status here.

"I want to remind you that the Kanak people are the indigenous people of this country,"

said Mr. Yewene, who is "finance minister" in a provisional government proclaimed by the FLNKS on Dec. 1.

He said the future of the other communities — who now outnumber the Kanaks after heavy immigration — was a matter for an independent Kanak government to decide.

However, Mr. Yewene said the FLNKS was willing to discuss the proposal put forward by special envoy Edgar Pisani for a referendum on independence in July. The plan would grant New Caledonia independence with economic and defence links to France.

Two months of violence between militant Kanaks and settlers who want the territory to remain French have left 19 people dead. Mr. Mitterrand told a press conference in Paris that a state of emergency imposed on the island because of the clashes would continue.

But he said the major nickel mine at Thio would reopen very soon. Nickel production — along with tourism is the mainstay of the territory's economy — has been

severely disrupted by the troubles. Mr. Mitterrand reaffirmed his commitment to the Pisani plan although he indicated that it might be amended in detail to give stronger guarantees to the different communities.

The president of the territorial assembly, Dick Ukeiwe criticised a visit by FLNKS President Jean-Marie Tjibaou to Australia.

He said in a statement that Mr. Tjibaou, who met Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and Prime Minister Bob Hawke Monday, should not seek support in a foreign country.

Mr. Tjibaou is going from Australia to France where he will meet Socialist and opposition politicians.

Mr. Tjibaou gave qualified support to French government proposals aimed at ending the conflict there. But he also made it clear that his Kanak provisional government intended to declare independence on Jan. 1 next year whatever happened.

Mr. Tjibaou arrived in Canberra after meeting French President Francois Mitterrand during his 12-hour visit to the territory on Saturday.

His comments were the first since his meeting with Mr. Mitterrand and appeared to revive a dialogue with the French authorities which was severed by the police shooting of Kanak militant Eloi Machoro nine days ago.



Wreckage of the crashed Lockheed Electra passenger airplane near Reno, south of Nevada Monday (AP wirephoto)

'Foreign agent' left after spy ring was broken, Indian minister says

NEW DELHI (R) — The Indian government Monday announced during a stormy session of parliament that an "agent for a foreign power" had left the country after the discovery of a major spy ring in key government offices.

Angry opposition politicians failed to force a parliamentary debate on the scandal in which several Indian officials and businessmen have been arrested.

Home (Interior) Minister S.B. Chavan, in the first detailed statement to parliament on the affair, said the foreign agent had been withdrawn after the exposure of the espionage network.

Earlier, Indian newspapers reported that France, West Germany, the United States and the Soviet Union were all involved in the scandal and that six more diplomats had been told to leave.

"At the instance of the government of India, the agent of a foreign power involved in this case has been withdrawn from our country," Mr. Chavan said.

The minister was apparently referring to France's deputy military attaché in Delhi, Lieutenant-Colonel Alain Bolley, who flew back to Paris Sunday night.

Mr. Chavan said Indian intelligence had found that people occupying sensitive posts in the government had passed classified documents to an Indian, who in turn transmitted them to an agent of a foreign power.

"Several persons, including a representative of a private firm and some employees of the government in the office of the principal secretary to the prime minister, the Department of Defence

Production, the Ministry of Finance and the president's secretariat have been arrested and are being interrogated," he said.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said 12 officials and three businessmen were among those arrested in what it described as the country's biggest-ever spy scandal.

At least three more arrests were expected, it said.

Indian newspapers have said some of India's most sensitive secrets, including defence arrangements with the Soviet Union, were sold for as little as a bottle of whisky.

Mr. Chavan's statement sparked noisy protests from opposition parliamentarians who demanded he name people involved in the scandal. But they failed to force a debate on the issue.

68 killed in U.S. plane crash

RENO, Nevada (AP) — A Lockheed Electra passenger airplane with 68 people aboard crashed and burned next to a furniture store south of downtown early Monday, and only the pilot was believed to have survived, authorities said.

The airplane, Galaxy flight 203, took off from Reno Cannon International Airport at 1:05 a.m. (0905 GMT), said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ed Pinto in Washington D.C. The plane crashed near a large apartment complex but did not hit any living quarters, a Red Cross official said.

"It was really shocking. The plane never seemed to get off the ground," eyewitness Mark Brenner of Reno said. Brenner, who was driving by the scene of the crash, near U.S. 395, said everything was engulfed in flames.

Brenner said one person, burned beyond recognition, ran from the airplane crying, "help me, help me," and was rolled in the dirt by passersby. He was taken to a hospital, but his condition was not immediately known.

The pilot notified the tower that he was experiencing some vibration and wanted to come back," Mr. Pinto said.

"The next thing we know he was down four kilometres from the airport. The pilot apparently has survived but he's burned. Right now we don't think there are other survivors."

Mr. Pinto said the plane was a Lockheed Electra 188 and was bound for Minneapolis.

The crash occurred south of downtown in a business district, said Washoe County Sheriff's Deputy John Linnick.

"All I remember is the explosion," eyewitness Elissa Pagni said. "I saw flames flying up in the air. It was so loud. I was terrified."

Sharon Wilson, executive director of the Reno Red Cross, said the plane's fuselage lay along a route that connects Reno and Carson City.

"Pretty much all we can do right now is go down and give coffee to the workers," she said.

She said the plane crashed in an area near a large apartment and condominium complex.

"It crashed next door to Norwalk Furniture and also into the lot of an R-V (recreational vehicle) sales (business)," Linnick said.

Two Lockheed Electra turboprops have crashed, killing six people, in the past seven months.

One went into a screaming 20-second dive without warning and broke apart over Pennsylvania on May 30, 1984, killing three crew members and a passenger, according to the National Transportation Safety Board.

Column

Polo match delays Nigerian execution

Lagos (R) — The public execution of a Nigerian armed robber was postponed this weekend so that it would not interfere with a polo match, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported. Thousands of people arrived at the polo ground in southern Ibadan City soon after dawn to watch the firing squad but the convict, Sunday Akerele, was returned to jail. NAN said no official reason was given for the postponement but the brief reprieve was granted because the arena was being used for a polo tournament.

Rings blamed for transmitting disease

LONDON (AP) — Rings worn by nurses may be endangering hospital patients by helping transmit disease germs, Britain's Central Public Health Laboratory has warned. In an article in this week's British Medical Journal, the laboratory said that of 50 nurses checked recently at a unidentified north London hospital, 20 had colonies of disease bacteria growing under their rings. Only one had similar bacteria on another finger, it said. Though it said the clinical importance of the figures remain to be fully evaluated, "the organisms isolated include those responsible for many infections in hospital," it added. "The possibility that such bacteria can permanently colonise the hands of hospital staff wearing rings should be born in mind in high risk wards and (operating) theatres."

Frostbitten legs of 2 sisters amputated

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — The frostbitten legs of two sisters who survived a seven-day ordeal in an icy ravine have been amputated below the knee and the two are in serious condition, a medical bulletin said Sunday. The two teenagers were hospitalised for treatment of severe exposure, including frostbite of their legs, after hunters found them. The girls, aged 18 and 17, had spent 160 hours without food at the bottom of a 150-metre deep ravine, after losing their footing at the edge. They survived bitterly cold weather. The bulletin, issued by the military hospital here, said their legs were amputated Saturday because of life-threatening "serious tissue changes."

Britain's red phone booths to go

LONDON (R) — Red telephone booths, as much a symbol of Britain as red double-decker buses, are on the way out. British Telecom has said it would spend £160 million (\$180 million) phasing out its network of 77,000 kiosks and replacing them with brightly-lit stainless steel booths containing vandal-resistant equipment.

Woman delivers her own baby with knife

PEKING (R) — A woman in south China delivered her own baby by slicing open her stomach with a kitchen knife, the Peking Evening News reported. After several hours of painful labour she performed the Caesarean section on herself and gave birth to her second daughter on Dec. 25, the newspaper said. Mother and baby were taken to the local hospital the next day and were doing well, it said.

One third of Georgians do not work

MOSCOW (R) — Spot police checks on crowded streets in the Soviet Republic of Georgia have revealed that up to a third of those questioned were breaking the law — by being unemployed, according to a local newspaper. Police stopped passers-by on busy city squares demanding identity documents and proof of employment. The Communist Party newspaper Zarya Vostoka (dawn of the east) said. Anyone consistently refusing a regular job in the Soviet Union, irrespective of the job offered by local employment boards, is guilty of a criminal offence and liable to a labour camp sentence for "parasitism." The Georgian newspaper said many of those found avoiding work were tried and sentenced while others were given warnings and told to take up a job.

Terrorist dies in Stuttgart blast

STUTTGART, West Germany (AP) — A bomb in a baby buggy shattered a West German computer centre Sunday, killing one man and badly injuring a woman who apparently triggered the device prematurely, police said Monday.

The number of homeless could increase when survey ships report back to Suva after visiting the Lau and Lomaiviti groups of islands, they said.

Several people have been reported missing and the death toll could also rise.

The government has set up relief stations following cyclones Eric and Nigel and has been offered help by Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Britain.

U.S. and Australian planes are flying in tents and other emergency supplies while Britain has donated £47,000 (\$53,000) and said it could provide further help.

Government officials said damage estimates were approaching \$43 million.

Sugar is the country's main revenue earner but all four mills had been damaged and it was not known if the crushing of the last 100,000 tonnes of the record 1984 crop could be completed, a Fiji Sugar Corporation spokesman said.

Nadi International Airport reopened Sunday and thousands of holidaymakers began leaving.

Some hotels reported serious damage but all were functioning except two small resorts.

Investigators said the bomb detonated at 6:15 p.m. (1715 GMT) outside a building housing the Zueblin Construction Company Computer Centre and another computer company office in Stuttgart-Vaihingen.

Police said it appeared that the man was blown to bits when the bomb went off while it was being armed. They said a human hand was found at the site.

The woman was arrested at the scene and taken to a Stuttgart hospital for treatment.

Police sources who did not want to be named said the bomb may have been intended for an office of the German Research and Test Installation for Air and Space Travel (DFVLR), which is located near the blast site.

Earlier, Indian newspapers reported that France, West Germany, the United States and the Soviet Union were all involved in the scandal and that six more diplomats had been told to leave.

Home (Interior) Minister S.B. Chavan, in the first detailed statement to parliament on the affair, said the foreign agent had been withdrawn after the exposure of the espionage network.

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Murdered Taiwanese was FBI informant, report says

NEW YORK (R) — A left-leaning Taiwanese dissident shot dead by three Asians in California last October was an informant for the FBI and gathered information of Chinese-Americans, Newsweek has said.

The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) connection was apparently not the reason for the murder of writer Henry Liu in Daly City, but explained why federal agents immediately began investigating the case, Newsweek said.

In Taipei, the Taiwan government said last week that some of its intelligence officers were involved in the killing and three had been arrested, touching off a political scandal on the Nationalist-ruled island.

Newsweek said a tape-recording implicating several Taiwan intelligence officials was in the hands of the FBI, and this

may have been the key to Taipei's decision to investigate American suspicions.

The Taipei government has denied that its decision to probe official involvement was influenced by the tape.

The magazine quoted unspecified sources as saying the key tape recording was made by one of the suspects in the killing, Chen Chi-Li, a Taiwanese underworld figure, who was reported to have implicated a leading Taiwan intelligence official in the shooting.

The official was arrested and held for interrogation along with intelligence officer Col. Chen Fu-Men, who used Chen Chi-Li as an informant, the magazine said.

Of three intelligence officers Taiwan says have been arrested, only Col. Chen Fu-Men, a deputy head in the Military Intelligence Bureau, has been identified.

3 Pakistani opposition politicians detained

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Pakistani military authorities have detained three leading opposition politicians for three months, prior to a planned meeting of the main opposition alliance here Tuesday, opposition sources said Monday.

They said the convenor of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) alliance, Malik Muhammad (Jamal), was detained Sunday night at his house in Lahore, capital of Punjab province.

The sources added that Pakistani Democratic Party leader Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan and former National Assembly Speaker Malik Meraj Khalid were sent to the city's Kot Lakhpat Jail.

Mr. Jamal and Mr. Nasrullah Khan had returned to Lahore only Monday after attending an MRD central committee meeting at the north-west frontier province town of Abbottabad.

The weekend meeting decided to boycott general elections next month which the military government has barred political parties from contesting.

Another MRD meeting is due in Lahore Tuesday. The government has accused the MRD of rigidity and said it would not allow it to hold any more meetings.

But Mr. Jamal said Sunday the MRD, an alliance of 11 banned political parties, would go ahead with the Lahore meeting that will coincide with a meeting of President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq in Rawalpindi.

The MRD demands elections under the suspended 1973 constitution providing for a Western-type parliamentary democracy but Gen. Zia, who seized power in a July 1977 military coup, says the parliamentary system does not suit Islamic Pakistan.

He has barred political parties, banned since October 1979, from contesting the Feb. 25 elections but last week removed electoral bans from many opposition activists, enabling them to stand as independent candidates.

A total of 1,345 people filed as candidates with election officials before the deadline Sunday, with 217 seats at stake in the 237-member National Assembly, the APP news agency reported.

Murderer of Chinese hero's family executed

PEKING (R) — The killers of the family of Peng Pai, a Chinese revolutionary hero who created a peasant movement before Mao Tse-tung, have been sentenced for the mass killing of dozens of people nearly 20 years ago.

Hong Guiren was executed Sunday for his part in the slaughter. He hacked off the head of Peng's nephew with a machete and hung it on the gate of the southern town of Haifeng, according to local newspaper reports reaching Peking Monday.

The Canton Evening News said two other men were also sentenced to death but after appeal Luo Bi was jailed for 15 years and Wu Niangmu for two years.

Other people involved in the August 1967 killings were still on trial, it said.

The incident was only one particularly vicious case during Mao's 1966-76 Cultural Revolution when the late chairman's Red Guard followers persecuted mil-

lions they identified as his enemies.

Those who suffered gained the courage to accuse their former persecutors only after the return of a moderate government under Deng Xiaoping. Peng's relatives did not demand an investigation until 1978.

But it took another investigation, begun in 1983, before local authorities arrested the murderers, the paper said.

Peng Pai became a revolutionary martyr when he was executed in 1929 by the Nationalists for organising peasant movements long before the main Chinese Communist Party ditched the Marxist principle that revolution begins with the urban masses.

On Aug. 26, 1967, Mao's supporters in Haifeng started a campaign to criticise Peng Pai which quickly led to the killing of six of Peng's relatives and dozens of other people.

Portuguese leaders discuss year of political turbulence

LISBON (R) — Portugal's Council of State Monday discusses a chill between President Antonio Ramalho Eanes and Prime Minister Mario Soares after a forecast that 1985 will be a year of political turbulence.

Foreign Minister Jaime Gama, often considered Mr. Soares' political heir-apparent, made the prediction in an interview on Saturday with a weekly publication, Expresso.

Gen. Eanes called the meeting of the council, a top-level consultative body, after a row broke out over a new year's message in which he criticised the Socialist Social Democratic Coalition.

Gen. Eanes said the government was unable to mobilise Portugal's human and natural resources.

The government retorted that Gen. Eanes was acting more like an opposition leader than a head of state.

It said that if Gen. Eanes thought the government could not

make democracy work he ought to dismiss it.

Gen. Eanes presides over the council, comprising 16 politicians including Mr. Soares, but is not bound by its advice.

Mr. Soares, heading a 19-month-old centrist coalition government in his third term, and Gen. Eanes, ending a second five-year term and barred by the constitution from seeking a third, have clashed several times in the past, and Gen. Eanes once dismissed the prime minister.

Amid an economic crisis, presidential and local elections are due at the end of the year, and parliamentary elections which need not be held until 1987, might be brought forward.

Mr. Soares is widely tipped to be the Socialist Party's candidate for president, but both men have appealed for less attention to be paid to the elections and more to the economy, as Portugal prepares to enter the European Community in 1986.

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Filipino opposition leader returns home from exile

MANILA (R) — Philippine opposition leader Jovito Salonga returned to Manila Monday after nearly four years of voluntary exile and declared that people must be willing to work, fight, suffer and, if necessary, die for freedom.

In a tumultuous reception at Manila Airport — where journalists and securitymen outnumbered the official welcoming party of opposition figures — Mr. Salonga said he had returned "to share in the trials and sufferings of the Filipino people and help hasten the return of freedom, justice and democracy in our unhappy, divided land."

The former senator, who went to the United States in March, 1981, was escorted from Hong Kong by several opposition politicians and personalities. They included Agapito Aquino,

younger brother of former Senator Benigno Aquino who was shot dead at Manila Airport when he returned from the United States in 1983.

Mr. Salonga was met by opposition Liberal Party leaders and other political figures, including some identified with the left-wing National Democratic Front.

Mr. Salonga, 64, was severely wounded in grenade blasts at a Liberal Party rally in Manila on Aug. 21, 1971. He is blind in one eye and is partially deaf.

In a statement read at the airport he said doctors had given him a "clean bill of health". But he was clearly overwhelmed as supporters and journalists crowded around him.

Mr. Salonga, listed among more than a dozen possible candidates to challenge President Ferdinand

Marcos in elections scheduled for 1987, said: "We shall pitch in to achieve our cherished yearning to see a united, independent, vigorous, democratic opposition."

He said the lesson of the last 12 years was "that we cannot and do not deserve freedom unless we are willing to work for it, to fight for it, to suffer for it and, if necessary, die for it."

Although Mr. Salonga is a respected politician, most political analysts rate his chances of being nominated as a presidential candidate as slender.

He himself has signalled that he is not seriously considering the nomination.

General wounded

Meanwhile a general in the paramilitary constabulary and six

other men were seriously wounded in an ambush by suspected Communist rebels in the southern Philippines.

The Philippine News Agency said Brig. Gen. Pedro de Guzman, 69, a regional commander in northern Mindanao, was returning to his camp outside Cagayan de Oro Saturday night when his car and an escort vehicle were sprayed with gunfire from two cars that overtook them.

His driver, an aide and two men in the escort vehicle were also wounded and two bystanders were hit by stray bullets.

The agency said Gen. De Guzman, highly-decorated for campaigns against Communist insurgents, underwent surgery for multiple wounds but doctors feared his right leg might have to be amputated.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A ♠